

Hafa Adai!

'Sinkhole' actually WWII underground water tank. **PAGE 2**
DOC's armory room inspected, CCTVs found operational. **PAGE 3**

\$1

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Sale of IPI assets pending court approval

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Although the District Court for the NMI has previously lifted the stay on the limited receivership against Imperial Pacific Interna-

tional (CNMI) LLC, the actual sale of IPI's assets is still pending the court's approval.

According to a credible source, the plaintiffs in this case, seven former IPI employees who previously sued IPI over labor violations, have approval to prepare for sales.

However, District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona Manglona will still need to approve the IPI assets that will be put up for sale or for auction, the source said.

A status conference on the matter will be scheduled sometime in September, according to the source.

Earlier this month, the U.S. District Court for the NMI lifted the stay on the limited receivership that was previously granted against IPI and its

assets and has ordered Clear Management to proceed with its auction of IPI's assets starting Aug. 30.

The limited receivership was previously granted in favor of U.S.A. Fanter Corp. but it has since been assumed by

See SALE on Page 4

Center for Living Independently purchases new van



By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI Center for Living Independently has purchased a brand new, wheelchair-accessible van that will be utilized to carry out the center's various activities. Satur said the center wrote a proposal to SNILD and thankfully, they honored it.

In an interview with CLI

executive director Susan Satur, CLI was able to purchase the van through a \$107,000 local appropriation from the Saipan & Northern Islands Delegation.

Satur said the center wrote a proposal to SNILD and thankfully, they honored it.

See CENTER on Page 4

Mikhail Gorbachev, 91

By JIM HEINTZ
ASSOCIATED PRESS

MOSCOW (AP)—Before Mikhail Gorbachev came along, the Soviet Union seemed an immov-

See MIKHAIL on Page 4

Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev says in Moscow that a local military commander ordered the use of force in the breakaway republic of Lithuania, where an assault by Soviet troops on Jan. 13, 1991 claimed 14 lives.



COMMUNITY VULNERABILITY

LEGEND:

- Red: Least safe
- Orange
- Yellow
- Blue
- Green: Safest

Source: Office of the Governor

INSIDE



ADVERTISING SUPPLEMENT

Saipan Tribune has come out with a pull-out advertising supplement to celebrate Grandvrio Resort Saipan's reopening.

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WORLD

Pakistani officials say the flooding that has hit across the country over the past weeks is like nothing they have seen before.

PAGE 17



LIFE & STYLE

Shock is the word people use over and over again when they remember Princess Diana's death in a Paris car crash 25 years ago this week.

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Local

'Sinkhole' actually WWII underground water tank

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

What was believed to have been a geological sinkhole at one of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s wastewater plants turned out to be an underground structure that collapsed, according to CUC.

In a brief conversation with CUC executive director Gary Camacho, he said after working

with various engineering teams, CUC was able to determine what exactly the "sinkhole" was and it turned out to be an underground water tank dating back to World War II that collapsed.

However, Camacho said now that CUC has a better understanding, CUC isn't ruling out the possibility that the recent 5.8-magnitude earthquake played a role in the sudden collapse of the water tank.

"We have a better understanding of it now. I would imagine the earthquake played a role in this because the integrity of the structure was fine for a long period of time. I think between deterioration and seismic activity, the combination may have triggered the collapse," he said.

Meanwhile in an official press release from CUC, the agency contracted engineering

teams and had them conduct a preliminary condition assessment using unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) which helped determine what the "sinkhole" actually was.

"Yesterday, CUC issued a notification regarding a sinkhole that formed at the Sadog Tasi Wastewater Treatment Plant. Since the initial report, CUC and contracted engineering teams and conducted

a preliminary condition assessment using unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) and determined that the depression formed at the Sadog Tasi site was not the result of a geological sinkhole, but was caused by the structural collapse of a portion of a World War II-era underground water storage tank," the press release stated

The metal tank, which sported a concrete roof, was approximately 130 feet in diameter and was filled with 3 million gallons of clear water, CUC stated.

Investigation found that a partial roof collapse occurred near the center of the tank which resulted in soil entering into the underground structure.

"While the cause of the roof failure is still under investigation, it is known that an earthquake impacted the region

hours before the collapse," the press release noted.

CUC has temporarily relocated all impacted staff to alternative operating areas as a result of the incident to ensure their safety and continues to provide uninterrupted power, water and wastewater services to its customers.

"The Sadog Tasi Wastewater Treatment process systems have not been impacted by the event and the facility has maintained uninterrupted operations," CUC states.

In addition, structural and geotechnical engineering specialists will be conducting additional assessments to develop interim and permanent remediation action plans while ensuring the safety of CUC customers and staff.

"This is a developing situation. Corrections and updates to this event will be issued as new information becomes available," said CUC.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. isn't ruling out the possibility that the recent 5.8-magnitude earthquake played a role in the sudden collapse of the water tank in Sadog Tasi that was initially thought was a sinkhole.

NORTHERN MARIANAS COLLEGE
Procurement & Property Management Office
P.O. Box 501250 CK, Saipan, MP 96950 U.S.A.
Tel: (670) 234-5498 ext. 6824/23/22 Fax: (670) 235-7601
E-mail: ppmo@marianas.edu, Website: www.marianas.edu

INVITATION FOR BIDS
JANITORIAL SERVICES
NMC IFB 22-0006

Northern Marianas College is soliciting competitive sealed bids for the procurement of Janitorial, Housekeeping and Cleaning Services for the As Terlaje Campus.

Specifications and Scope of Work packages may be picked up at the **NMC Procurement Office, Bldg. P, commencing Thursday, August 25, 2022 between the hours of 8:30-11:30 a.m. and 1:00-4:00 p.m.**

Bid Packages are due no later than 2:00 p.m., September 26, 2022, at Northern Marianas College, As Terlaje Campus, Procurement Office, Bldg. P, Saipan, MP 96950. In accordance with Public Laws 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118, Local Preference is available to local businesses for this procurement.

For Bidders located outside of the CNMI: you may request a copy of the IFB email to Anita Camacho (ppmo@marianas.edu). This solicitation does not constitute an offer and does not obligate the College in any way. The NMC reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids for any reason and waive any defect in said bids, or cancel in part or its entirety this IFB, if it deems, in its sole discretion, it is in the best interest of the College.

All costs incurred by the proposer to prepare a response to this solicitation and subsequent inquiries shall be borne by the proposer. All submittal shall become the property of NMC.

Approved by:
/s/ Anita Camacho
NMC Procurement & Property Manager

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: DPW22-ITB NO.: 42200155

SUBMISSION DATE: September 23, 2022 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"Construction of Sidewalk in Tanapag along Route 30"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, LOCATED ON SECOND FLOOR, OLEAI JOETEN COMMERCIAL CENTER, SAN JOSE, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

The project package will be available on or after **August 25, 2022** at Technical Services Division, Department of Public Works, located on Second Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, San Jose, Saipan.

A non-refundable payment of **One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00)** is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at DPW Technical Services Division required for each set.

There will be a **Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **September 09, 2022**, 9:00 a.m. local time at the Department of Public Works Conference Room 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center Office, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All question regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **September 14, 2022** to **Ms. Lorraine S. Villagomez, Acting Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ MICHAEL A. BORIA **/S/ FRANCISCO C. AGUON**
ACTING SECRETARY, DPW ACTING DIRECTOR, PROCUREMENT SERVICES

CONGRESSMAN GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO SABLÁN
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**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

Deolie Dalag : FCD-DI
Tanjusay : CIVIL ACTION NO.
Petitioner, : 21-0527-FCD
vs.
Flora Mia : SUMMONS FOR
Canapi Badua : PUBLICATION
Respondent.

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED RESPONDENT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is on file with the Court, within thirty (30) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the Petitioner whose address is PMB 700 BOX 10000 Saipan, MP 96950 as soon as practical after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or Mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file an answer in accordance with this Summons, Judgement by Default may be taken against you for relief in the Complaint.

Dated this 29th day of December, 2021.

/s/
CLERK OF COURT

Rodney S. Cabales **VACANT** **Joanna C. Alman** **Ringo C. Reyes** **Megan C. Mendiola**
Chairman Vice Chairman Secretary Treasurer Board Member

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
TINIAN MUNICIPAL SCHOLARSHIP BOARD
Municipality of Tinian and Agiguan
PO Box 520059 • San Jose Village • Tinian, MP 96952
Phone (670) 433-0504 • Fax (670) 433-1819
Email: tinianscholarship@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Tinian Municipal Scholarship Board hereby gives notice that there will be a Regular Board Meeting on Tuesday, September 06, 2022, at 6:00 p.m., at the Tinian Youth Center Conference Room, San Jose Village, Tinian.

AGENDA

I. PRELIMINARY
A. Call to Order
B. Roll Call
C. Adoption of the Agenda
D. Adoption of Minutes
• April 08, 2022 (Regular Meeting)
• May 02, 2022 (Special Meeting)

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS*

III. OLD BUSINESS
A. Treasurer Report
1. TMT
2. SOF

IV. NEW BUSINESS
A. Review & Approval for Fall 2022 Applicants
B. Current TMSB Office situation and pending relocation
C. Notice of Resignation from Board Member

V. MISCELLANEOUS

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

/S/Rodney S. Cabales
Chairman

We ask that remarks be limited to 3 minutes each. Everyone is welcome to submit written comments on the day of the meeting.
Pursuant to 1 CMC section 9912, the Board may vote to meet in executive session at any time. If there are individuals with special needs requiring special accommodations, please contact the TMSB office at least 48 hours prior to schedule meeting for assistance.

DOC's armory room inspected, CCTVs found operational

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_deletorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Election Commission staff, Office of the Public Auditor legal counsel, and representatives of the gubernatorial candidates, inspected Thursday the Department of Corrections' armory room, where early voting ballots for the Nov. 8 election will be stored.

CEC executive director Kayla S. Igitol reported during CEC board meeting Friday that they found that the closed-circuit television cameras in the armory room are operational.

Igitol also informed the board that they commenced Thursday accepting request for absentee ballots.

With respect to the CCTV issue, the executive director said CEC staff, along with representatives of the gubernatorial candidates and OPA legal counsel Ashley Kost, did a walk-through at DOC at 10am.

She said they were able to inspect the armory room for 10-15 minutes.

"So we were able to do FaceTime where [DOC] Capt. [Manuel] Quitano had my phone in the control room. I was doing FaceTime with Miss Ashley so they were able to see in real time that the cameras, the CCTVs are in operation," Igitol said.

She said representatives of the gubernatorial candidates were all happy with the inspection and that she also mentioned to them that CEC will do periodic inspection before the Nov. 8 general election comes.

The CEC board agreed to ask DOC to allow an inspection of DOC's armory room.

The Committee-to-Elect Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios and Saipan Mayor David Apatang requested for the inspection as apparently DOC Commissioner Wally Villagomez mentioned during a budget hearing before the House of Representatives that their CCTVs were down.

Palacios is running for governor, with Apatang as his running mate for lieutenant governor, under a unified independent team.

On absentee ballots, Igitol said they commenced accepting request for absentee ballots Thursday, and as of Friday received 143 requests.

She said they are reviewing the requests.

Igitol also disclosed that attorneys Sean Frink and Marcia K. Schultz have confirmed that they are available to act as CEC's administrative hearing officers for this election.

Igitol said as of Friday morning, there were 18,808 registered voters in the CNMI.

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18HS950	2018	KIA FORTE	\$17,059	\$14,995	22M021A	2019	MAZDA6 GT SEDAN	\$29,936	\$24,995
15P325	2015	TOYOTA CAMRY XLE	\$20,295	\$15,995	20P413	2020	TOYOTA C-HR LE	\$27,407	\$26,995
16P446	2016	MAZDA3 SPORT	\$16,115	\$17,995	18R280	2018	FORD F-150 XLT SOLD	\$30,387	\$27,995
17P365	2017	HYUNDAI TUCSON SE	\$19,752	\$17,995	18P452	2018	MAZDA MX5 CLUB CONVERTIBLE	\$30,257	\$27,995
17P370	2017	TOYOTA COROLLA LE	\$20,726	\$18,995	16P364	2016	TOYOTA 4RUNNER SOLD	\$35,198	\$29,995
8H054E	2019	HYUNDAI KONA SE	\$21,651	\$18,995	13P359	2013	TOYOTA FJ CRUISER SPORT	\$33,890	\$29,995
21D129A	2018	HYUNDAI KONA SE	\$20,789	\$18,995	20H141E	2018	HYUNDAI GENESIS-G90	\$38,204	\$34,995
14P466	2014	CHEVY CAMARO	\$19,995	\$19,995	19P367	2019	HONDA RIDGELINE	\$47,459	\$39,995
16P424	2016	NISSAN MAXIMA	\$27,062	\$19,995	10P447	2010	FORD RAPTOR	\$38,151	\$39,995
18P393	2018	NISSAN ROGUE SPORT	\$22,661	\$19,995	18P478	2018	FORD EXPLORER	\$41,387	\$39,995
7P460	2007	TOYOTA TACOMA SR5 4WD	\$25,887	\$19,995	21H096D	2021	HYUNDAI PALISADE LIMITED	\$45,870	\$46,995
22M032A	2018	HONDA CIVIC EX	\$23,840	\$21,995	19P455	2019	KIA STINGER GT2	\$45,870	\$44,995
18HS947	2018	HONDA CIVIC EX	\$23,087	\$21,995	17P347	2017	JEEP WRANGLER SOLD	\$39,134	\$49,995

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2021 TOYOTA COROLLA LE
SALE PRICE **\$24,995**
• KBB: \$25,509 • 20,000 MILES • STK: 21P425

2017 TOYOTA TUNDRA TRD
SALE PRICE **\$50,995**
• 40,385 MILES • STK: 22D029A

2016 MAZDA CX-5 TOURING
SALE PRICE **\$17,995**
• KBB: \$21,604 • 39,500 MILES • STK: 16P360

2017 KIA SPORTAGE
SALE PRICE **\$18,995**
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Torres notes CNMI-United Airlines strong partnership

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres said Friday that the CNMI's partnership with the United Airlines is strong and that he is very excited with its inaugural direct flight between Saipan and Narita, Japan, today, Thursday, but at the same time also concerned because of the COVID-19 situation.

» Says he's very excited with Saipan-Japan direct flights, but also concerned with COVID-19 situation

Torres, in response to a question during a press briefing about the start

of the United Airlines' Japan-Saipan direct flights, said he is excited because not only this will bring tourists from Japan, but also the opportunity for locals to travel abroad.

He said this makes very convenient for locals as they can use United Airlines via Japan and then out to the U.S. mainland.

"So I'm very excited for that part. I am concerned obviously because

we're not out of the woods with COVID, and especially with Japan we continue to monitor that," the governor said.

With CNMI's TRIP Japan Program, United Airlines will provide direct flights between Saipan and Narita, Japan for six months starting today. The plane is expected to arrive Saipan tomorrow, Friday, at 2am.

Marianas Visitors Authority's Travel Resumption Investment Plan chair Ivan Quichocho had earlier disclosed the direct flight service is for six months, but their agreement allows an extension for up to one year.

Torres said he is hoping that they

can strengthen that partnership with Japan government and that a discussion with Travel Bubble Program is perhaps on its way.

Torres said he worked really hard with MVA to bring back the Japanese market through Skymark Airlines Inc.

He said through negotiation, they managed to bring back the Japan market and Skymark was doing very well until the COVID-19 pandemic came.

The governor said unfortunately, Skymark has its own challenges domestically.

"So now we have a partner with United," said Torres who described it as a strong partnership.

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Commonwealth Casino Commission executive director Andrew Yeom has underscored the need for sufficient funding with CEC's court battles against Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC, as well as in an arbitration process.

Yeom in his latest executive report obtained by *Saipan Tribune* yesterday said the CCC board needs to discuss not so much on legal strategies but purely on funding these crucial legal actions with IPI.

He also disclosed that IPI is fully updated with its payroll to employees as of Aug. 12, 2022, after the company paid the five pay periods that it has been in arrears.

With respect to court action, Yeom said that last Aug. 23, IPI filed an appeal at the CNMI Supreme Court to reverse the Superior Court's ruling that affirmed CCC's suspension of IPI's exclusive casino license.

"Therefore, we are now faced with this suspension appeal while we figure out the next move on current revoca-

tion matter as well as to decide and/or possibly go through the arbitration process all in parallel," Yeom said.

On April 22, 2021, the CCC board ordered the indefinite suspension of IPI's gaming license for not complying CCC's many orders. The board directed IPI to pay \$6.6 million in total penalty within six months from the order, and pay immediately \$15.5 million and \$3.1 million in annual casino exclusive license fee and annual casino regulatory fee, respectively.

IPI then filed a court action before the Superior Court to challenge the CCC board's suspension order.

In September 2021, Yeom filed five complaints against IPI—each one seeking the immediate revocation of its exclusive casino license, after IPI failed to comply with the suspension order for not paying the fees.

Last March 16, Superior Court Associate Judge Wesley Bogdan affirmed CCC's order suspending IPI's exclusive casino license as he dismissed IPI's court action.

In May 2022, U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona granted IPI's request

for a temporary restraining order to prevent CCC from holding a hearing on May 24 and 25, 2022 to revoke IPI's casino license. The TRO was subsequently extended for various reasons, including the parties' settlement discussions.

Last Aug. 24, Judge Manglona granted IPI's request for a preliminary injunction against CCC to prohibit the commission from revoking IPI's exclusive casino license. The judge issued the order to allow IPI to pursue its right to arbitration.

CCC was ordered to participate in the arbitration process.

Arbitration is a procedure wherein two parties agree on one or more arbitrators to make a decision in their dispute in order to resolve a disagreement outside of court proceedings.

Yeom informed the CCC board last week that all these court actions and arbitration will surely require significant time, manpower, effort, and sufficient funding.

Pertaining to IPI's payroll, Yeom said he is glad to hear that the employees have been fully paid, but that this matter remains to be monitored.

epochal. By 1990, he had won the Nobel Prize for his "leading role" in ending the Cold War and reducing nuclear tensions.

But a mere year later, he was the sad and bewildered embodiment of failure. The country had fallen apart in his hands, and at home he was derided, despised and increasingly shunted aside as irrelevant.

His power hopelessly sapped by an attempted coup against him in August 1991, Gorbachev spent his last months in office watching republic after republic declare independence until he resigned on Dec. 25, 1991, and the Soviet Union wrote itself into oblivion a day later.

Many of the changes, including the Soviet breakup, bore no resemblance to the transformation that Gorbachev had envisioned when he became the Soviet leader in March 1985.

By the end of his rule, he was powerless to halt the whirlwind he had sown. Yet Gorbachev may have had a greater impact on the second half of the 20th century than any other political figure.

"I see myself as a man who started the reforms that were necessary for the country and for Europe and the world," Gorbachev told The Associated Press in a 1992 interview shortly after he left office.

"I am often asked, would I have started it all again if I had to repeat it? Yes, indeed. And with more persistence and determination," he said.

Russians blamed him for the 1991 implosion of the Soviet Union — a once-fearsome superpower whose territory fractured into 15 separate nations.

His run for president in 1996 was a national joke, and he polled less than 1 percent of the vote. In 1997, he resorted to making a TV ad for Pizza Hut to earn money for his charitable foundation.

His former allies deserted him and made him a scapegoat for the country's troubles.

"In the ad, he should take a pizza, divide it into 15 slices like he divided up our country, and then show how to put it back together again," quipped Anatoly Lukyanov, a one-time Gorbachev supporter.

Gorbachev never set out to dismantle the Soviet system. He wanted to improve it.

Soon after taking power, he began a campaign to end his country's economic and political stagnation, using "glasnost," or openness, to help achieve his goal of "perestroika," or restructuring.

In his memoirs, he said he had long been frustrated that in a country with immense natural resources, tens of millions were living in poverty.

"Our society was stifled in the grip of a bureaucratic command system," Gorbachev wrote. "Doomed to serve ideology and bear the heavy burden of the arms race, it was strained to the utmost."

Management.

However, other than its arguments that the gaming machines cannot be sold because of 4 CMC § 51564, and arguing that the entire limited receivership should be dissolved, IPI did not provide an analysis based on the court's orders as to what items should or should not be sold by Clear Management.

So, because IPI failed to follow the court's request, Manglona found that all IPI "casino utilities" previously examined and identified by Clear Management can be sold.

The order further provided that Clear Management is authorized to sell all gaming equipment identified during the inspection to fulfill the judgment in this matter.

Manglona also noted that IPI's lawyer had previously produced a "list of assets" that contained 39 pages of "gaming equipment, including hundreds of chairs and stools, poker chips, playing cards, security or surveillance equipment, and other items. These too have been included in the scope of IPI assets that can be auctioned off.

wheelchairs with us," she said.

Satur noted that CLI acquired their first 15-seater van about three years ago through SNILD which now is at full capacity.

The center currently has roughly 170 consumers including home-bound individuals.

Because there are so many consumers, CLI breaks them up into groups for center access.

"Monday and Wednesday we have one group of consumers; Tuesday and Thursday another group of consumers. Monday to Thursday are training days. Everybody that comes in has a goal and everybody's goals are different...Some of them want to learn how to cook, some of them want to learn how to keep a house, among other goals. Every Friday everyone gets together and we have socializations. We play games outside and perform different kinds of activities," she stated.

CLI's mission is to ensure the rights of people with disabilities to live independently and to be fully integrated in the community.

CLI's vision is to provide a comprehensive range of services, which make it possible for people with disabilities to live as independently as they choose.

MIKHAIL

From Page 1

able superpower in perpetual antagonism to the United States. With a breathtaking series of reforms, Gorbachev changed all that — and redirected the course of the 20th century.

Alongside Ronald Reagan and Margaret Thatcher, Gorbachev was a key protagonist in a global drama that many thought impossible and, for those who lived through it, seemed almost surreal.

Under Gorbachev, the Berlin Wall crumbled, thousands of political prisoners were released and millions of people who had known only communism got their first real taste of freedom. But he was unable to control the forces he unleashed — and ultimately waged a losing battle to salvage a crumbling empire.

Gorbachev died Tuesday at a Moscow hospital at 91.

Although little known outside Sovietologist circles before he became leader in 1985, he quickly became a dominant and charismatic figure on the world stage. The splotchy purple birthmark on his bald pate made him instantly recognizable, and his vigor stood in sharp contrast to the recent run of aged and barely articulate Kremlin leaders.

His vision of remaking the Soviet Union into a more humane and flexible country had the power of the

SALE

From Page 1

former IPI workers who had sued IPI for labor violations.

According to the previous order issued lifting the stay, Clear Management was given authority to proceed with the auction of IPI's casino gaming machines no sooner than Aug. 30, 2022.

Prior to issuing the order, the court determined that IPI defaulted under the stay agreement for failing to increase the supersedeas bond they previously agreed to, and the plaintiffs sought to lift the stay on the limited receivership so that IPI's gaming equipment could be sold to satisfy their judgment against IPI.

At a hearing last Aug. 16, the court granted the plaintiffs' request and ordered that the stay on the limited receivership be lifted.

Manglona said she previously asked the parties to brief the issue of the appropriate scope of what items are included in the limited receivership and may be sold by Clear

CENTER

From Page 1

"Actually we asked for more, but they're only able to give us \$107,000 which we are most grateful for, and we were able to purchase the van," she said.

The new van, Satur said, can carry two consumers who have wheelchair needs per trip which is good for not just picking up consumers to bring them to the center, but to transport consumers on field trips.

Satur explained that prior to acquiring the van, they had to coordinate with the Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority to transport its consumers to and from the center at the cost of \$3 per trip.

"We are hoping that the new van will lighten up the cost of paying COTA for transportation. We also have other activities, like we go to the movies and we go around the island, and these activities we could not do unless we coordinate with COTA, and again there will be additional charges. With the new van we will be able to take consumers to wherever they want to go, even to go grocery shopping. Now, we will be able to take those consumers in

41 establishments, agencies participate in job fair

By FAHIM UDDIN
fahimuddin489@gmail.com
CORRESPONDENT

A total of 30 companies and 11 government agencies and non-governmental organizations took part in the job fair held last Aug. 26 at the Hyatt Regency Saipan.

CNMI Department of Labor director of employment Eugene Tebuteb spearheaded the event in partnership with the Governor's State Workforce Development Board.

"The event went well considering that there was a

» Event also lured over 300 jobseekers

two-and-a-half year gap in the continuity of outreach services of this kind, the number of job fair participants totaling 352 exceeded everyone's expectations, it was an in-person event that allowed for individual interactions between employer and jobseeker, the atmosphere in general for all attendees was a welcomed change from the pandemic-influenced atmo-

sphere, all 23 employers were considering hiring the many applicants that showed up to the event," said Tebuteb.

Employers from the construction, labor services, retail, and hospitality sector were present at the live event. The public was welcome to attend the free job fair.

"Rebuilding the Workforce of Tomorrow," the department's theme of the job fair, was an appeal to address the effects of COVID-19 pandemic on the CNMI's workforce.

Labor constantly works to improve the working popula-

tion on the island in an effort to reduce problems brought on by the pandemic.

Both the Workforce Investment Agency and the CNMI State Workforce Department Board are Equal Opportunity Employers/Providers, and individuals with disabilities may seek auxiliary aids services from them.

Tebuteb would like to thank 500 Sails: Community Programs /Cultural Maritime Training Center, Army Recruitment Center, BOOST Program, Bridge Investment Group, LLC. dba Tinian, Dia-

mond Hotel & Casino, CNMI OSHA, CNMI Scholarship Office, Coca-Cola Beverage Company (Micronesia), Inc., Commonwealth Utilities Corporation, Coral Ocean Resort, Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan, Delta Management, GPPC, Inc., Guam Army National Guard, Herman's Modern Bakery, Inc., Hyatt Regency Saipan, IT&E, J.C. Tenorio Enterprises, Inc., Kalaayaan, Inc., Kensington Hotel Saipan, Laolao Bay Golf Resort, Latte Training Academy, LSG Lufthansa Service Saipan, Inc., Marianas Alliance of Non-Governmental Organizations (MANGO), MTO Maintenance (Saipan), Inc., Northern Marianas College, Northern Marianas Technical Institute, Office of Personnel Management, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, Office of Youth Affairs, Pacific Islands Club Saipan, Plumeria Steakhouse, POI Aviation, PSS Cooperative Education Program, PSS Human Resources Department, S.A.I. Leisure Group, Salt and Barber, LLC., and Subway Investments Corp. for taking part in the job fair.

NORTHERN MARIANAS TECHNICAL INSTITUTE
P.O. Box 504880 Saipan MP 96950
Tel. No.: (670) 235-6684

Northern Marianas Technical Institute Request for Proposals (RFP)
EDA Grant No. 07-79-07543
Northern Marianas Technical Institute Workforce Career Training Facility NMTI-2022/RFP-003

The Northern Marianas Technical Institute (NMTech), located in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands is soliciting bids from qualified vendors that are interested in providing professional services for the design and construction management for the Northern Marianas Technical Institute Workforce Training Facility.

The EDA funded project proposed is for an estimated 29,200 sq. ft. trades institute to house programs for Construction Trades, Culinary Arts, Automotive Technology, and Hotel/Restaurant Operations. The project aims to create a sustainable facility by adding on resiliency components. The project entails the construction of an approximately 29,200 square foot two story building providing administrative office spaces, restrooms, classrooms and floor spaces for its trades programs. The project also includes equipment, facility parking, entry/exit improvements to connect the project site to existing roadway(s), installation of back-up generator, water storage tank, and typhoon shutters for all its glass windows.

The Scope of Work is available beginning September 1, 2022, at the NMTech Procurement Office, located at Lower Base, Saipan. Requests may be sent via email to procurement@nmtchcnmi.org.

All questions or inquiries regarding this RFP is due no later than 9:00 p.m., **September 12, 2022, by email only**. Responses to questions or inquiries will be provided on September 16, 2022.

Sealed proposals for this project shall be submitted with one (1) original and four (4) copies to the NMTech Procurement Officer located at the NMTI campus, Lowerbase, Saipan, MP-96950 no later than **4:00pm, local time, Chamorro Standard Time, 09/22/2022 and must be marked "Proposal - Northern Marianas Technical Institute Workforce Career Training Facility NMTI-2022/RFP-003."**

Electronic submissions may be accepted if approved prior to the submission deadline.

Failure to follow the instructions regarding the submission of RFP Responses may result in the NMTech's choice to disqualify such bids.

/s/ Jodina C. Attao
Chief Executive Officer
/s/ Amy Lynn Babauta
Procurement Officer

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Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
1178 Hinemlu' St. Garapan, Saipan, MP 96950

Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation USDA Grant Meeting
Esther Muna, CEO

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation, specifically for the U.S. Department of Agriculture grant funding, is hereby giving notice that the Division of Grants & Financial Integrity (DGFI) is scheduled to meet on Monday, September 12, 2022, from 4:30 pm to 5:30 pm at the DGFI Office, Lower Navy Hill, Saipan.

AGENDA

I. CALL TO ORDER
II. ROLL CALL
III. REVIEW & ADOPTION OF AGENDA
IV. NEW BUSINESS
• Welcome and Introduction
• Review of USDA Grant Applications
• Community Input and Comments
o Economic and Environmental Impact
o Service Area
o Alternatives to the Projects
o Other
• Miscellaneous
V. ANNOUNCEMENTS
• Grant Application Review Process
• Others
VII. ADJOURNMENT

All interested individuals are welcome to attend. Should you need further information, please contact the Division of Grants & Financial Integrity Office at 234-8950 ext. 3451.

P.O. Box 500409 CK, Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone: (670) 236-8201/2 FAX: (670) 233-8756
E-mail: esther.muna@chcc.health

Opinion

Saipan Tribune

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Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Pot is now more prevalent than cigarettes, but federal law remains outmoded

Consider this for an illustration of just how much society has changed in the past few generations: New data shows that, for the first time ever, more Americans use marijuana than tobacco. It's positive news from a public health standpoint. Whatever the legitimate concerns about the U.S. becoming a pot-head nation, weed is demonstrably safer than cigarettes. Yet federal law continues to treat pot like the dangerous illicit drug that past generations long thought it was. It's time for that to change.

A study funded by the National Institutes for Health found that marijuana-use and cigarette-use trends have gone in dramatically opposite directions in recent decades. The study found 16% of Americans today use marijuana, more than twice the percentage as in 1999. Almost half of Americans today say they have tried marijuana at some point, compared to about a third who had tried it as of 1999. Reaching back further, to 1969, just 4% of Americans said they had tried pot.

Cigarette use, meanwhile, is plummeting. Just 11% of Americans say they currently smoke, compared with 23% in 1999 and 40% in 1969.

Perhaps not surprisingly, those overall numbers are driven largely by an even more dramatic divergence of vices among young people, with those of ages 18 to 34 preferring pot to cigarettes by double-digit percentages.

But America's largely geriatric political leadership still resides far in the past in terms of federal marijuana policy, even as states' laws increasingly embrace modernity. Missouri and 36 other states have legalized medical marijuana, with 19 states allowing it for recreational use as well. Yet in the eyes of the federal government, it remains a Schedule 1 drug—the most tightly regulated category that includes heroin—under the Controlled Substances Act of 1970. Which, as the above data illustrates, was a time of far different societal attitudes than today.

The federal government's answer to this cannabis conundrum has been to continue the federal prohibition on pot while declining to enforce it in states that have legalized it. This solution may be practical, but it undermines the whole concept of federal supremacy. The gun extremists who control Missouri government have been rightly condemned for claiming the state can simply ignore federal firearms laws — yet the only way state legalization of pot works is for the states and the District

See POT on Next Page

THREE WAYS TO GAMBLE...



Is Biden's student debt forgiveness plan fair?

What is fair? That is the question of the hour, as politicians and everyday Americans on both sides of the aisle debate the pros and cons of President Joe Biden's plan to forgive student loan debt.

Is it fair to those who didn't go to college? Is it fair to those who "did the right thing" and paid off their loans? In short: Is it fair to me?

These are all good questions. As is the question of cost. The White House says the average cost is \$24 billion a year. Considering we're already nearly \$31 trillion in debt and Jerome Powell, the Federal Reserve chairman, recently indicated that efforts to reduce inflation could bring "some pain to households and businesses," asking how are we going to pay for this is a pressing question.

But to me, the most important question is actually who is going to pay for this? As in, who pays for what society needs to remain whole and healthy and who pays when it falls short?

I have a good friend by the name of Neil who is single, makes a good living and looks much younger than he actually is because he understood the importance of moisturizing early in life.

Anyway, my buddy Neil never had any children but for more than 40 years he has had a portion of his tax dollars pay for services he does not use, like public schools.

Now, is that fair to Neil and other taxpayers without children? Or is paying for education for the next generation necessary to be part of a healthy society? A society where someone in Arizona can see Kentuckians struggling in the wake of devastating floods and be thankful the Federal Emergency Management Agency is there to help those people — as opposed to being resentful that no disaster requires FEMA aid in Arizona?

The answer to "who is going to pay for this?" is always "we are" — whether on the front end by addressing issues as a society or paying for the more expensive fallout from ignoring our problems. Time and time again, we are forced to face the reality that we are all in this together.

Certainly the expected cost of \$300 billion for Biden's loan forgiveness plan is significant. But what of the effect of having 45 million borrowers grappling with \$1.6 trillion in student loan debt? What of the societal and fiscal cost of those millions of Americans stymied in their futures?

By LZ GRANDERSON
Los Angeles Times



But we don't think like that, we don't vote like that and we don't govern like that.

That is why history is replete with billions spent on fixing problems that would have taken millions to prevent. Look no further than the homelessness crisis, which used to be "someone else's problem" until it wasn't.

Much has been made about the likes of Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene, R-Ga., and the other Republicans who have rabidly denounced student loan cancellations. Turns out, they had their own far larger Paycheck Protection Program loans forgiven. We know they have no shame and their supporters are not deterred by their blatant hypocrisy. And that's how it has always been.

But for people genuinely asking about fairness or economic impact, there are issues to consider. If postsecondary education is the route to the middle class, is not college debt a sign of someone trying to pull themselves up?

Sure, we can find examples like Republican Texas Sen. Ted Cruz's hypothetical slacker barista, who game the system, but we can also point to examples of businessmen who repeatedly file for bankruptcy and still get loans — but that doesn't mean it's the norm.

I was one of those individuals who graduated from college with student loan debt and went to bed hungry at times because of it. And when I was able to pay it off, I was happy. And I'm happy a portion of my tax dollars may go to relieve someone of that burden.

Right now, millions of Americans, including the very poor, are drowning in student debt. I see this very much like a FEMA moment, and I'm thankful government is stepping up to help. Call me crazy but isn't assisting those in need a principle of fairness as well?

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

I am California's acting surgeon general. And I have bipolar disorder

In 2011 I was a third-year medical student at Harvard Medical School. I was on my psychiatry rotation — and I had a secret.

My attending doctors remarked on how well I supported our patients. I was grateful but felt as though my familiarity with and deep empathy for their symptoms and medication side effects were like a neon sign that at any moment could out me.

Using the words "bipolar disorder" in reference to myself was brand-new to me then. The images I had of people with bipolar disorder just didn't fit with my sense of who I was.

And I felt strong internalized shame around my diagnosis and the mood-stabilizing medications I had started taking.

That stigma was ever-present around me, too. On other rotations I'd heard colleagues refer with unfounded prejudice to patients with bipolar disorder. "You can't trust anything she says. She's probably lying — she's bipolar."

I never wanted anyone to diminish the doctor and colleague I could be with stereotypes like these. So I went to some lengths to keep my diagnosis to myself.

I first noticed mood symptoms in 2009, before starting my second year of medical school. That summer, I had worked at a health center in a Nicaraguan village, far away from those closest to me.

When I returned to Boston, I remember standing frozen in the grocery store, completely overwhelmed by the vegetable choices in front of me. My mind kept going over and over the options without knowing what to put in my cart.

My thoughts were sluggish. I was absent in conversations. It felt as if I was experiencing my life from a faraway place, muted and without color. It took all my effort to come up with the right thing to say to seem "normal."

I would read the same passage over and over — and not recognize any of it. For the first time I felt out of my depth in academics and thought maybe I didn't have it in me to continue with medical school.

The hardest moments were the sleepless nights. I would toss and turn, feeling alone and agonized. Nothing relieved my exhaustion. I dreaded the sunrise because it meant having to get through another day.

I alternated between feeling numb and having jagged spurts of panic: What's wrong with me? Could this actually be the new me? It was terrifying to lose such fundamental parts of myself — the way I thought, how I related to others, even my

baseline disposition.

I knew something was really wrong. But despite having studied depression, I didn't recognize it in myself.

After two weeks of feeling this way, at the urging of my partner and parents, I saw a psychiatrist. Since I didn't have a family history of bipolar disorder, she didn't suspect it. I was started on routine antidepressants and therapy.

For more than two years I tried medication after medication, with no significant relief. The medications also layered what felt like a miserable, activated energy on top of my depression. Eventually they tripped me into mania.

But that first — and so far, only — manic episode saved me. It led to my receiving the right diagnosis of bipolar disorder, two and a half years after my symptoms began. I was losing hope that I would ever feel like myself again, but that diagnosis led me to treatments that finally worked.

It took a few months of medication adjustments and riding out my lowest depression yet — when I struggled with suicidality — but I finally got my full self back.

With experience, therapy and support from loved ones, I became an expert in the variances of my moods — those that were "normal" and those that were part of my bipolar disorder. I learned to ask for and receive help when I needed it.

I learned that circadian rhythm disruptions and sleep deprivation wreaked havoc on my brain. The rapid day-to-night schedule switches and 30-hour shifts of medical residency — not healthy for anyone — could specifically trigger major mood episodes for me. I learned to minimize triggers, to recognize my red flag symptoms and double down on behavioral and medication management when I needed to.

In 2021 I'd had six years of wellness. I was working at a public health job I loved and was pregnant with my first child. The hormonal shifts, sleep deprivation and new roles at work and at home meant I was entering an especially high-risk period for a mood episode. I was terrified that I would lose myself again.

But with help from my partner and my family, and concerted strategies to protect sleep after my son was born, amazingly, I was able to stay well. There were certainly ups and downs that first year, but I was grateful to start parenthood as myself.

Today, I live with bipolar disorder as a chronic and manageable health condition. Having touched rock bottom and survived,

By DEVIKA BHUSHAN

Los Angeles Times



Devika Bhushan is a pediatrician, public health practitioner, parent and Indian American immigrant. She serves as California's acting surgeon general.

I'm motivated to protect myself at all costs, to fiercely guard the boundaries and care strategies I need to stay healthy. With the right treatments and therapy in place, I hope to be well for the majority of my life.

I'm now increasingly open about my diagnosis with colleagues and friends. I'm more authentically myself than ever before, having worked toward accepting all parts of me, flaws included. I would never have predicted this in the lowest points of my illness.

I believe that our struggles can be the source of our superpowers. They show us our capacity for vulnerability and strength — that we can endure and overcome hard things.

They also give us empathy for the full spectrum of human experience, allowing us to better support others at their most vulnerable moments.

I am not who I am today despite having bipolar disorder, but because of it. Experiencing bipolar disorder has made me a better doctor, colleague, parent, family member and friend.

I wish during my darkest moments I had known someone who had survived the worst of bipolar disorder. Someone who could tell me that I'd not only reclaim who I really was but go on to thrive. I wish I'd known that bipolar disorder wouldn't get in the way of becoming who I wanted to be — in many ways, it would enable it.

By sharing my story, I hope to dispel stigma and internalized shame and to help anyone struggling know they are not alone. If you feel comfortable, consider shining a light on your story — stigma festers in the dark and scatters in the light.

Most of all I want people to know that with effective treatment, a full life and our dreams are all within reach.

Biden's climate bill isn't enough for people of color

As the recently signed Inflation Reduction Act makes waves for its positive impacts on human health and the climate, the bill's supporters shouldn't forget the communities living in the throes of environmental violence that won't have justice through the act alone.

This summer marks the eighth anniversary of the initial "water boil" advisory in Flint, Michigan. Government officials had changed the drinking water source for the mostly Black city to the polluted Flint River as a cost-cutting measure, causing the water crisis that would make Flint the poster child for environmental injustice.

Flint residents became the center of the call for environmental justice, but their situation was not unique.

POT

From Page 6

of Columbia to mutually accept exactly that kind of scenario.

Meanwhile, banks and other institutions that operate under federal laws are put in an untenable situation when it comes to interacting with states' legalized marijuana industries, given that such interactions are technically federal crimes.

Maintaining a federal contraband law that everyone agrees can be ignored in most of the country fosters disrespect for the law. The solution isn't complicated: Federal law regarding pot should be updated to reflect where most of America is on the issue today.

Morrisonville, Louisiana, was a small town established by freed slaves following the end of the Civil War. In 1958, Dow Chemical moved into the neighborhood to produce vinyl chloride. The groundwater was so contaminated that, by 1989, Dow relocated Morrisonville's residents, and the historic community was lost forever. Morrisonville became another casualty of the chemical industry in a corridor of land between Baton Rouge and New Orleans that is now known as "Cancer Alley."

Port Arthur, Texas, is home to one of the largest oil refinery complexes in the world. The local refinery industry spews benzene, a known cancer-causing toxin, into the air around the city, whose population is 95% Black. Houston, the third-largest hotspot for cancer-causing air pollution in the country, is only an hour and a half west of Port Arthur.

Rome, Georgia, a small town near Atlanta, recently had its drinking water supply diverted from the Oostanaula River due to contamination by PFAS, or "forever chemicals." The source of the contamination, according to the Atlanta Journal-Constitution, began "dozens of miles upstream in Dalton...the epicenter of U.S. carpet manufacturing."

Throughout the United States, 50% of residents who live within one mile of the 1,866 active EPA Superfund sites are people of color. This despite the fact that Black and brown people only account for 39% of the nation's population as a whole.

As a Black millennial and a Christian climate organizer, I'm calling for an honest assessment of the climate crisis, including an admission that communities of color are disproportionately harmed and silenced in the quest for climate solutions. When

By MARQUIS COLE

Progressive Perspectives



Marqus Cole is the director of church and community engagement for the Evangelical Environmental Network. He is also a Public Voices Fellow with The OpEd Project in partnership with the Yale Program on Climate Change Communication. This column was produced by Progressive Perspectives, which is run by The Progressive magazine and distributed by Tribune News Service.

communities of color are written out of the conversation, they disproportionately suffer the public harm without seeing any economic benefit.

To be sure, the IRA should be celebrated for many of its provisions, but it's insufficient in important ways. Trickle-down climate solutions like tax rebates for businesses and homeowners that switch to clean and energy efficient technologies won't cut it. These solutions fail to account for the historic injustice of housing policies that led to only 43.4% of Black Americans being homeowners, a rate that's lower than it was a decade ago.

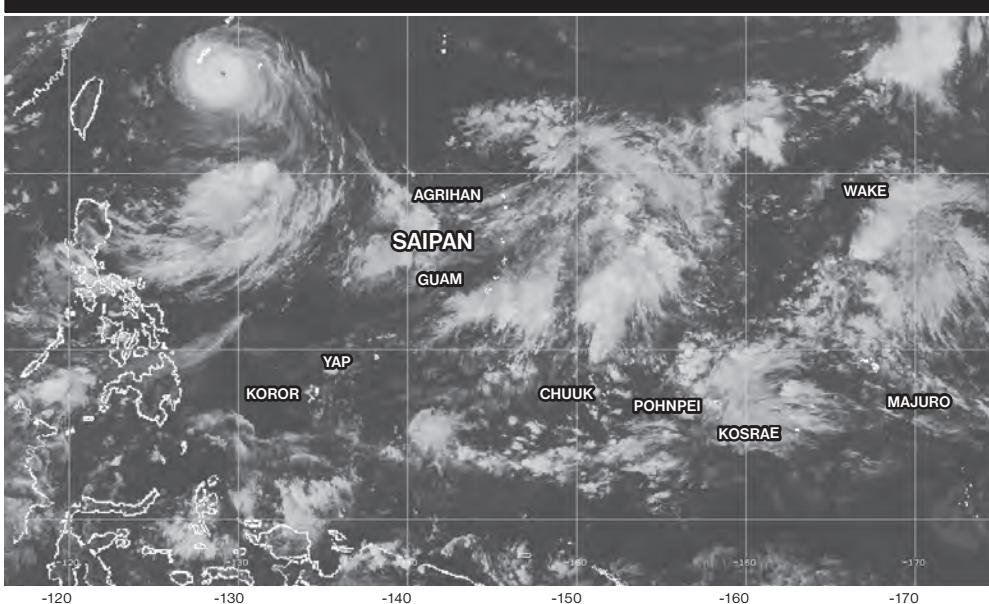
If climate solutions don't take racial equity into account, our policies will continue to fall short of what it takes to protect all Americans.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Partly sunny with scattered showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms. Light and variable winds.	Mostly cloudy with a chance of showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with a chance of showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with a chance of showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with a chance of showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms.
87°	76°	87°	76°	87°
77°	87°	77°	87°	77°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 5:37 AM, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 31, 2022

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Satellite shows a trade-wind disturbance over the Marianas, with cloudiness and scattered to numerous showers across the region. On radar, showers are moving north at low level, while upper-level cloudiness is moving southeast. At the surface, winds are from the east or southeast at Guam and Saipan, but radar winds are from the south from 1000 ft up to 5000 ft, veering to southwest and west with increasing height, then northwest at 35-40 thousand feet. In the coastal waters, seas remain at 2 to 3 feet with an east swell.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲	▼	°F
Guam and Rota	Scattered Thunderstorms	85°	/	77°
Palau	Partly Cloudy	85°	/	76°
Yap	Thunderstorms	86°	/	79°
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	85°	/	80°
Pohnpei	Scattered Thunderstorms	88°	/	77°
Kosrae	Scattered Thunderstorms	86°	/	80°
Majuro	Thunderstorms	85°	/	80°

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:04 AM	6:29 PM
Friday	6:04 AM	6:28 PM
Saturday	6:04 AM	6:28 PM
Sunday	6:04 AM	6:27 PM
Monday	6:04 AM	6:26 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	9:57 AM	9:50 PM	-
Friday	10:52 AM	10:34 PM	-
Saturday	11:51 AM	11:23 PM	-
Sunday	12:53 PM	-	-
Monday	-	12:19 AM	1:57 PM

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AROUND THE GLOBE

Auckland	Cloudy	60° / 49°
Beijing	Sunny	84° / 62°
Hong Kong	Thunderstorms	89° / 81°
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	86° / 74°
London	Partly Cloudy	76° / 62°
Los Angeles	Sunny	93° / 71°
Manila	Thunderstorms	90° / 78°
Melbourne	Light Rain	61° / 45°
Miami	Partly Cloudy	88° / 79°
New York	Sunny	86° / 68°
Osaka	Thunderstorms	88° / 76°
Paris	Mostly Cloudy	84° / 64°
Busan	Light Rain	80° / 73°
Rome	Thunderstorms	84° / 65°
Salem	Partly Cloudy	92° / 68°
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	69° / 54°
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	87° / 66°
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	90° / 76°
Washington, DC	Sunny	86° / 66°

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY FEET

4:53 AM	Low Tide	0.55
10:47 AM	High Tide	1.78
4:52 PM	Low Tide	0.81
10:45 PM	High Tide	1.93

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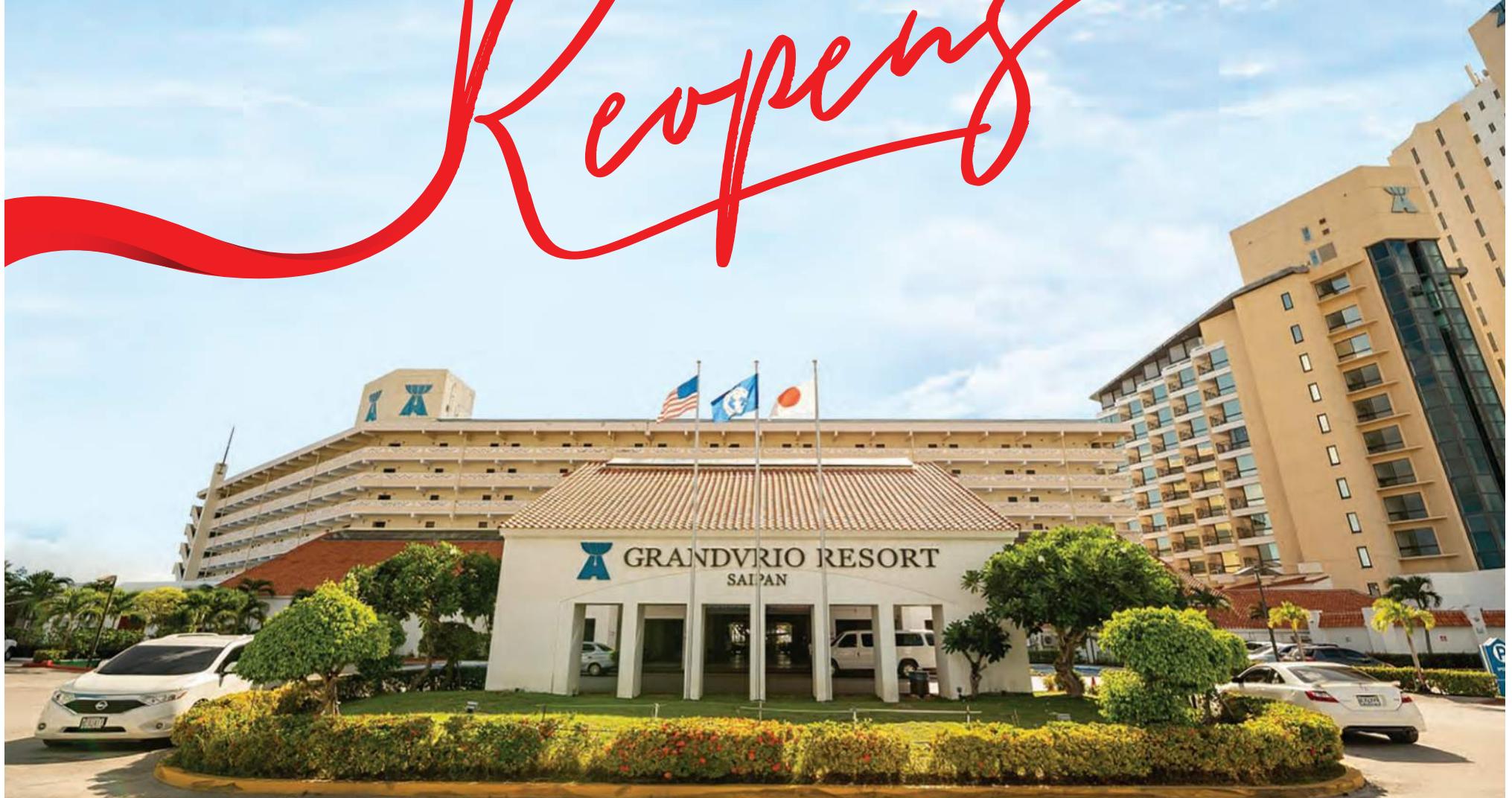
FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF AUGUST 1, 2022

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA117	9:50AM	10:30AM	Daily	UA174	8:00AM	8:45AM	Daily
UA156	6:30PM	7:15PM	6	UA112	4:40PM	5:30PM	6
GUAM-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-GUAM			
PR 111	6:00AM	8:00AM	Daily	PR110	10:00PM	4:00AM+1	Daily
UA193	7:05PM	10:55PM	5 via Palau	UA184	10:25PM	4:25AM+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA183	7:10PM	9:10PM	Daily	UA192	10:25PM	6:15AM+1	5 via Palau
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
UA117/183	9:50AM	9:10PM	Daily via Guam	UA184/174	10:25PM	8:45AM+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7 via Guam
				UA117/193	9:50AM	10:55PM	5 via Guam, Palau
				UA192/174	10:25PM	8:45AM+1	5 via Palau, Guam
				UA184/174	11:50PM	8:45AM+1	5 via Guam
SAIPAN-INCHEON (ICN)				INCHEON (ICN)-SAIPAN			
TW9308	3:30PM	7:20PM	Daily	7C3406	8:30AM	2:10PM	6
7C3405	3:30PM	7:25PM	6	7C3406	8:50AM	2:50PM	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7
7C3405	3:50PM	7:45PM	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7	OZ623	9:00AM	2:30PM	3, 6
OZ624	4:00PM	7:40PM	3, 6	TW9307	9:15AM	2:30PM	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
7C3451	3:00PM	6:20PM	3, 7	7C3452	9:00AM	2:00PM	3, 7
BX621	3:10PM	6:30PM	3, 7	BX622	8:00AM	1:10PM	3, 7
LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines; PR, Philippine Airlines; TW, T'Way Air; OZ, Asiana Airlines; 7C, Jeju Air; BX, Air Busan • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. (The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)							
MARIANAS SOUTHERN AIRWAYS							
INITIAL DAILY FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF AUGUST 18, 2022							
SAIPAN TO TINIAN				TINIAN TO SAIPAN			
DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY		DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY	
7:00 A.M.	7:15 A.M.	(Except Sundays)		7:35 A.M.	7:50 A.M.	(Except Sundays)	
9:50 A.M.	10:05 A.M.			10:25 A.M.	10:40 A.M.		
4:00 P.M.	4:15 P.M.	(Except Saturdays)		4:35 P.M.	4:50 P.M.	(Except Saturdays)	
SAIPAN TO ROTA				ROTA TO SAIPAN			
DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY		DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY	
8:10 A.M.	8:40 A.M.			9:00 A.M.	9:30 A.M.		
1:45 P.M.	2:15 P.M.			2:35 P.M.	3:05 P.M.		
SAIPAN TO GUAM				GUAM TO SAIPAN			
DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FRE					



GRANDVRIORESORT SAIPAN

Reopens



SAIPAN TRIBUNE SPECIAL ADVERTISING SUPPLEMENT
SEPTEMBER 1, 2022



GRANDVARIO RESORT
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From the Management & Staff of



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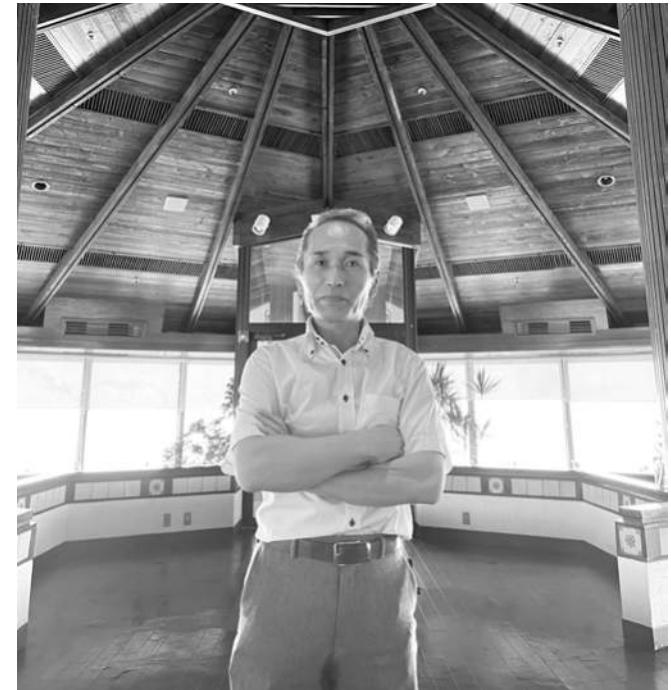
The vacation you have been waiting for



By TERI M. FLORES
CORRESPONDENT

Nestled in the heart of thriving Garapan on Saipan is an unassuming terracotta roofed, hacienda-style structure which houses one of the island's iconic landmarks—Grandvrio Resort Saipan.

Behind the walls of its very recognizable facade lies three interconnected structures—the Main Building, Crystal Tower, and the 18-story high rise Taga Tower—make up what was previously known to tourists and the local community as the Hafadai Beach Hotel.



DONNA RIVERA
Grandvrio Resort Saipan general manager Kunito Izumi poses at the hotel's Dolphin Restaurant.

For years, the Taga Tower graced the Garapan skyline as the tallest structure on hotel row. The resort has also been widely known for its rooms which give guests tantalizing ocean and sunset views framed against the wide expanse of the Philippine Sea.

And today, Grandvrio Resort Saipan is reopening its doors to guests and the public after a yearlong hiatus. Aside from bearing a new name, Grandvrio Saipan promises to give its guests exceptional customer service for a hotel stay worth remembering. After all, the resort is just living up to its name which in Italian means "grand" (gran) and "vigor" (vrio).

Route Inn Group, the Japan-based owner of the resort, decided to place the property under its famed Grandvrio brand in order to give it more prominence to Japanese tourists and emerging Asian markets. In addition, the resort's rebranding came in response to meeting the growing demands of the Northern Marianas' diversifying tourism industry, said general manager Kunito Izumi.

Izumi is well versed with the capabilities of the Route Inn Group in hotel development, having been the general manager of Himeji Castel Grandvrio Hotel in Japan prior to assuming his role in the Saipan resort.

Izumi explains that the resort's rebranding and reopening will be executed in phases. The first phase was completed last April 1 with the property's name change. Izumi says one of the advantages of being under the Grandvrio brand is the resort's ability to use the Route Inn Group's marketing and promotions arm to reach a wider market.

At present, the 360 hotels and facilities owned by the Route Inn Group in Japan, Vietnam, and Saipan are actively promoting the campaign "Saipan, the Tropical Paradise."

The second one, Izumi said, is how the power of recall casts a spell on Japanese tourists who will be easily impressed to know that there is a Grandvrio on Saipan. "This serves as an assurance that they will get the hospitable service and the quality amenities the Grandvrio is known for."

Aside from expanding its reach in the Japanese market, See VACATION on Page 12

Congratulations

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GRANDVRIOR RESORT
SAIPAN



From the Management & Staff of

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

VACATION

From Page 10

the resort is also planning to grow in other markets particularly within the Pacific region. "We are also implementing other operational changes to reflect the standpoint of local customers in exploring regional revitalization," said Izumi.

The next phase of Grandvrio Resort's reopening will focus on the development and launching of new events that will help capture and sustain the interest of their guests.

To prepare for the planned changes within the property, Izumi said they used the year-long hiatus to improve the aging air-conditioning and piping system.

The resort is also beefing up its staffing requirements and investing in staff training to ensure it has the capability to deliver excellent customer service.

For now, Grandvrio Resort is retaining its existing inventory of 429 rooms, venues, dining destinations, and amenities. For outdoor activities, guests may continue to enjoy the adult and kiddie pools, and the fitness center.

Refurbishment is expected to be undertaken later of its 429 rooms, all of which have private balconies that allow every guest a breathtaking

view of the Saipan lagoon. The resort has also retained the names of the current structures—from the Taga and Crystal Towers as well as the private venues Magalahi and Fiesta Hall and the dining outlets, Dolphin and Tropicana Restaurants.

To mark its reopening, the resort has lined up a slew of promotions that its patrons will surely enjoy.

From Sept. 1 to Oct. 31, 2022, local patrons may enjoy a "staycation" at one of the resort's standard twin rooms located at the Taga Towers. For \$115 a night, guests may take advantage of an early 10am check-in. Local ID is required.

Discounts and treats also await patrons of the resort's Dolphin and Tropicana Restaurants.

Coming from the heels of recovering from the widespread effects of COVID-19 on local businesses, Grandvrio Resort Saipan is eagerly looking forward to a more fulfilling future not just for the resort but most especially, for its guests.

"We sincerely apologize for the inconvenience of our temporary closure," said Izumi. "As we prepare for the future, Grandvrio Resort Saipan is maintaining its focus of fulfilling its commitment of delivering its guests a memorable stay at the resort.

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A new dining experience at Grandvrio Resort Saipan



DONNA RIVERA

Grandvrio Resort Saipan general manager Kunito Izumi poses with the hotel's F&B staff.

By TERI M. FLORES
CORRESPONDENT

Be ready to taste mouth-waiting and scrumptious offerings from two of Saipan's quintessential dining destinations. Local food enthusiasts are definitely delighted to learn that two of Saipan's favorite dining places have now rejoined the growing number of food locales the island has

to offer.

The Dolphin and Tropicana restaurants at the Grandvrio Resort Saipan are finally back in full swing after a yearlong respite. With a rejuvenated approach to service, both restaurants are reopening its doors with the promise that guests will enjoy good, hearty meals served with the best customer service in mind.

Guests who are looking to

dine amid the backdrop of the Saipan lagoon's expanse of majestic blue waters are welcome at the Dolphin Restaurant. Located on the 10th floor of Grandvrio Resort's Crystal Tower, this restaurant features an a la carte menu that highlights surf and turf offerings of perfectly cooked steak and freshly caught seafood as

See GRANDVRI on Page 16



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Host a romantic dinner for two or an intimate family gathering at the Dolphin Restaurant. Featuring a menu of different international cuisines, the restaurant is also known for its panoramic view of the Saipan lagoon.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Tropicana Restaurant is now open on Sundays from 11am to 2pm.



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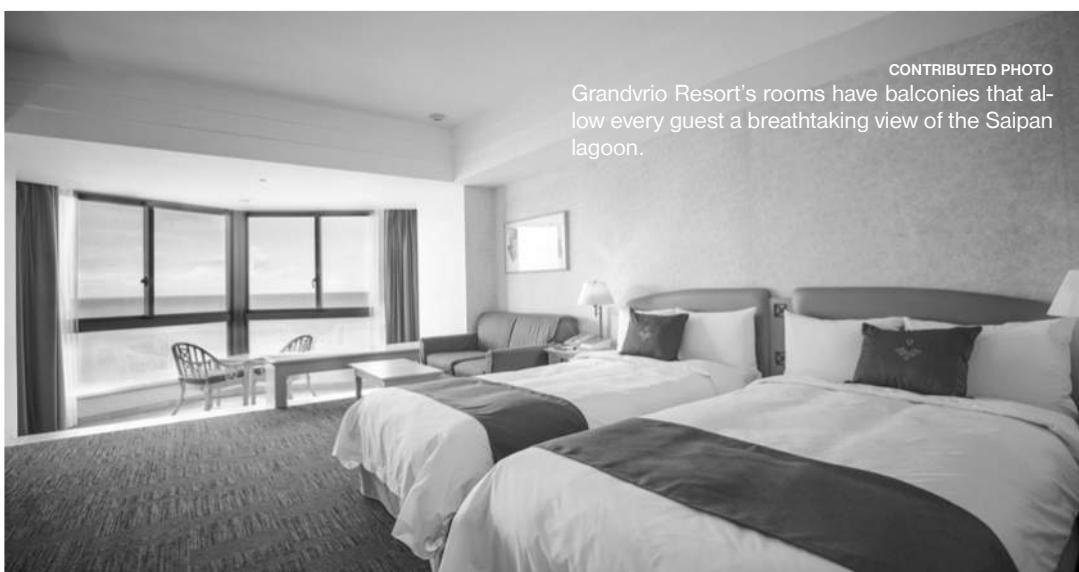
Lounge around and enjoy Saipan's year-round sunshine at Grandvrio Resort's adult and kiddie pool areas.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Grandvrio Resort Saipan's lobby is where guests are first greeted with the "Hafa Adai spirit" the Northern Marianas is known for. This resort's grand and imposing lobby is located at the Main Building.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Grandvrio Resort's rooms have balconies that allow every guest a breathtaking view of the Saipan lagoon.



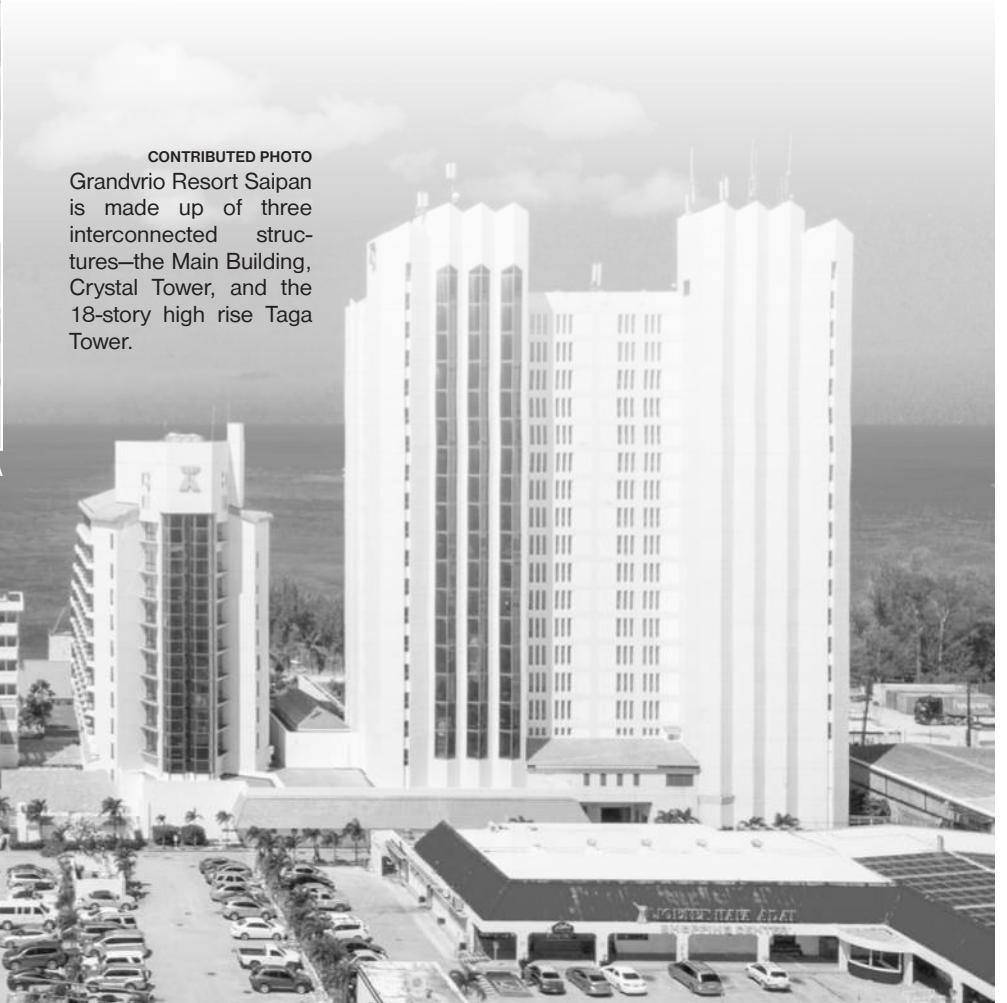
DONNA RIVERA



Grandvrio Resort Saipan's chefs.

DONNA RIVERA

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Grandvrio Resort Saipan is made up of three interconnected structures—the Main Building, Crystal Tower, and the 18-story high rise Taga Tower.



GRANDVARIO

From Page 14

well as a cornucopia of popular Japanese staples of sushi, tempura, and katsu curry rice bowls, among others.

Operating under new hours, Dolphin Restaurant is now

open for lunch from 11:30am to 2pm., Monday to Saturday. Dinners are from Monday to Sunday. Guests will be treated to a complimentary glass of iced tea during lunch while a choice of a complimentary glass of iced

tea or a glass of wine are available for dinner as part of the restaurant's reopening promotion beginning Sept. 1.

For a gustatory feast of all-you-can-eat Sunday brunch, the Tropicana Restaurant is now open on Sundays from 11am to 2pm. Buffet price is \$30 per person which is 20%

off of the regular rate. Guests also get free use of the resort's swimming pool if they dine at the restaurant beginning Sept. 1. The restaurant is located on the 2nd floor of the Taga Tower.

Food and beverage supervisor Corazon Barrios said the

resort has now also opened the use of its private function rooms—the Magalahi which can accommodate small parties of up to 30 guests and the Fiesta Hall which can host as many as 150 guests. The resort's catering services are now also

taking reservations for private parties and big gatherings and events.

The Food and Beverage Department may be reached at 234-6495/285-9228 to secure reservations to any of Grandvrio Resort's restaurants and function rooms.

World

For Pakistan flood victims, waters hit swiftly and brutally

CHARSADDA, Pakistan (AP)—Rubina Bibi was cooking food for her family in her mudbrick home in her village in northwest Pakistan when the nearby mosque blared a warning from its loudspeaker. Flood waters were coming, it announced, everyone should move to safer ground.

She and her family didn't take it seriously. There had been flooding in their village of Majooki more than a decade ago, and they hadn't needed to flee.

This time, however, it was on a different scale entirely. Days of torrential rains had

sent a massive surge of water down the nearby Swat River — so powerful that on that day, last Friday, it broke through a reservoir that usually controls the river's flow.

When the water hit Majooki hours after the warning, it poured into the house where the 53-year-old Bibi lived with her two sons, a daughter-in-law and her grandchildren.

One of her grandchildren, 5-month-old Dua Humayun, was sleeping on a cot in the house's courtyard. In an instant, the baby was swept away by the rushing waters. It was too fast for anyone to even think of

saving her. She was gone.

Pakistani officials say the flooding that has hit across the country over the past weeks is like nothing they have seen before. It has been caused by unprecedented heavy and unrelenting monsoon rains, fueled they say by the world's changing climate.

Millions in villages, towns and cities around Pakistan were caught off guard by the swiftness and power of the waters.

Bibi spoke to The Associated Press at a tent camp set up in a sports complex in the city of Charsadda for hundreds of people left homeless by the deluge.

She spoke of her granddaughter's death with composure, but inside the tent, her daughter-in-law could be heard sobbing.

"The floodwaters entered our house suddenly. We didn't have time to take anything as we were leaving," Bibi said. She, her sons and daughter-in-law carried her surviving grandchildren tightly as they waded through waist-deep water out of their home. They then walked in the stifling summer heat for four kilometers (2.5 miles) to Charsadda.

More than 1,160 people have been killed in flooding across Pakistan since mid-June, hun-

dreds of them in the major surge that began last week. More than 33 million people in the country of 220 million have been affected, including those left homeless by the destruction of more than 1 million homes. Pakistani officials have put the economic damage at some \$10 billion, including everything from collapsed bridges and roads to destroyed crops.

The district around Charsadda has been one of the hardest hit areas. The Swat River meets the Kabul River nearby, and the nearby farmlands are laced with tributaries — all of them still surging with swollen waters despite a pause in rain in recent days. Authorities have warned that more rains are expected in coming weeks.

The city of Charsadda, home to more than 120,000, has been trashed. On Tuesday, some neighborhoods remained flooded with water shin-deep or higher.

Residents whose homes still stood took out their soggy blankets and furniture and other possessions to dry. Others surveyed wrecked mud-brick or shoddy cinder-block homes with col-

lapsed walls and roofs. Deep, thick mud coated everything.

Bibi's home village of Majooki, once home to 2,500 people, remains under waist-deep water. The rice and wheat that residents stored in their homes to meet the year's need have been ruined. Hundreds of thousands of villages across Pakistan lost crops.

Many of Majooki's residents are now at the tent camp in Charsadda's Abdul Wali Khan Sports Complex. Hundreds of tents stood in rows, and children lay inside on plastic mats with what few belongings they took with them piled nearby. Some eat rice or other staples being distributed by the government.

"It is very hot here. We have a tent and a plastic mattress, but there is no fan. We are not getting enough food," Bibi said.

A widow, Bibi had worked washing clothes and cleaning in homes, and one of her sons was a construction worker. Now they are without work for the foreseeable future. She and others from the village have not been able to return and have no idea what remains of their homes.

Japan PM apologizes for party's church links, will cut ties

TOKYO (AP)—Japan's Prime Minister Fumio Kishida said Wednesday his ruling party will cut ties with the Unification Church following a widening scandal triggered by former leader Shinzo Abe's assassination last month.

Widespread cozy ties between members of Kishida's governing Liberal Democratic Party, many of them belonging to Abe's faction, and the South Korean-born church have surfaced since Abe was shot to death while giving a campaign speech in July.

The suspect arrested at the scene allegedly told police he killed Abe because of his apparent link to the church. In a letter seen by The Associated Press and social media posts believed to be his, the suspected gunman said he believed his mother's large donations to the church had ruined his life.

Some Japanese have expressed understanding, even sympathy, as details of the man's life emerged, creating deep implications for the political party that has governed Japan virtually uninterrupted since World War II.

The Unification Church, which was founded in South Korea in 1954 and came to Japan a decade later, has built close ties with a host of conservative lawmakers on their shared interests of opposing communism. Since the 1980s, the church has faced accusations of problematic recruiting and religious sales in Japan, which added to criticisms to Kishida's party for keeping ties despite knowing of legal disputes and other problems.

Kishida shuffled his Cabinet earlier in August to purge seven ministers linked to the groups. Among them was

Abe's younger brother Nobuo Kishi, who acknowledged that church followers volunteered on his election campaigns. Dozens of LDP members have since acknowledged their ties to the church and related organizations.

He said at the news conference that he has instructed LDP Secretary General Toshimitsu Motegi to survey the party fully and compile compliance measures. Kishida said he is rushing the effort but it may take time because the review will span decades.

Kishida apologized over the loss of public trust in politics because of the scandal and his lack of explanation for hosting a state funeral for Abe, one of most divisive leaders in Japan's postwar history.

The decision to hold a state funeral on Sept. 27 has split public opinion. The only other

Heavy fighting rages in Ukraine's Russian-occupied south

KYIV, Ukraine (AP)—Ukraine claimed to have destroyed bridges and ammunition depots and pounded command posts in a surge of fighting in the Russian-occupied south, fueling speculation Tuesday that its long-awaited counteroffensive to try to turn the tide of war is underway. Russia said it inflicted heavy casualties in return.

The clashes took place in Ukraine's Kherson region, where Moscow's forces rolled up major gains early in the war.

While independent verification of battlefield action has been difficult, Britain's Defense Ministry said in an intelligence report that several Ukrainian brigades had stepped up their artillery fire in front-line sectors across southern Ukraine.

Ukrainian authorities kept the world guessing about their intentions, sidestepping talk of a major counteroffensive over

the past couple of days.

The port city of Kherson, with a prewar population of about 300,000, is an important economic hub close to the Black Sea and the first major city to fall to the Russians in the war that began six months ago.

Occupation forces have spoken of plans to hold a referendum on making the Kherson region a part of Russia and have pressured residents to take Russian citizenship and stop using Ukraine's currency.

Ukraine's presidential office reported "tough battles" going on across practically all of the area and said Ukrainian forces destroyed ammunition depots and all large bridges across the Dnieper River vital to supplying Russian troops.

The Ukrainian military said Tuesday evening that the Russians were shelling more than 15 settlements in the Kherson area and resorting to airstrikes.

The British said that most of Russia's units around Kherson "are likely under-manned and are reliant upon fragile supply lines" while its forces there are undergoing a significant reorganization.

Russian Defense Ministry spokesman Lt. Gen. Igor Konashenkov maintained that its forces stood up well and that Ukraine lost hundreds of troops, tanks and other armored vehicles in Monday's action. His claim could not be independently verified.

Ukrainian independent military analyst Oleh Zhdanov told The Associated Press that "it will be possible to talk about the effectiveness of Ukrainian actions only after large cities are retaken." He added that Ukrainian forces had breached the first and the second lines of defense in the Kherson region several times in the past, "but it didn't bring about results."

state funeral held in postwar Japan was for former Prime Minister Shigeru Yoshida, who signed the San Francisco Treaty that restored ties with the Allies and brought about the end of the U.S. occupation.

Kishida's Cabinet last week allocated at least a 250 million yen (\$1.8 million) budget to invite about 6,000 guests for the funeral to be held at the Budokan arena in Tokyo.

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DAVID ILO (KALEN)

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Mother: Isabel Ilyary Ilo

Brother: Edward Ilyary

Daughter: Davelynn Kalen

He will forever be remembered in the hearts & lives of his:

Children/GrandChildren/GreatgrandChildren:

Carla Pua & children

Elizabeth Kalen/children and grandchildren

Jessica Kalen/children and grandchildren

Beverly Koto (Francis)/children and grandchildren

Valerie Kalen Romolor / children:

Joseph/Janele, Walelia/Mickey (Josian Eiligherang, Kei'vani Mae Ineita), Andres/Kelivia Camacho (Mai'Janea), Noe'iani Kikko, Ian L. Romolor II, Liannie Plumeria M. Kalen

Lennie Kalen/Rudolfo Jr. Hermosilla/ children:

Mardee-Ann, Maronica Kololeke Anne, Coby Jay

Sisters: Margarita I. Kani

(Gilbert)/children/grandchildren

Isabel Teregeyo/son & grandchildren

Common-law wife: Elsida Mesiap/children and grandchildren

Our Beloved David will arrive on September 3rd from Guam at 8:45 am and will be escorted to the Borja Funeral Home. Funeral services will be held on Tuesday, September 6th, 022. Mass of Christian burial will be 11am at Santa Remedios church in Tanapag cemetery.

Your Thoughts And Prayers Are Greatly Appreciated.

Elsida, his daughters, grandchildren and great grandchildren

Environment

TNS
A chicken wanders through charred remains from the Beachie Creek fire near the destroyed Oregon Department of Forestry, North Cascade District Office in Lyons, Oregon, on Sept. 13, 2020



WILDFIRE MAPS underscore risks—and costs—of climate

By ERIKA BOLSTAD
STATELINE.ORG

PORLTAND, Ore.—Jennie Peters vividly remembers what it was like to evacuate with three children from a wildfire as fierce winds blew embers through the river canyon near her home two years ago.

"When we left, I could see the burning embers coming over the trees, landing in the backyard," she said. "I called my mom, and I was like, 'You know, I don't know if I'll ever see our house again.' And I kind of put it in my mind that it's probably all gone."

Fire destroyed outbuildings on her family's 13-acre property near the Santiam River in Lyons, Oregon, including a well house and her husband's workshop. The family lost hardwood trees, mostly maples, valued at \$200,000. But their 1,700-square-foot home survived, albeit with smoke and heat damage that prevented their return for four months.

Since then, Peters said, she and many of her neighbors who lost homes or property have been meeting in a weekly community support group. They share resources and commiserate over their losses. And they celebrate rebuilding milestones—and their victories over insurance claims adjusters.

The rebuilding process "has given PTSD to people," Peters said. "Insurance has bullied so many people to where they don't want to fight."

As a result, many Oregonians in fire-prone parts of the state were nervous this summer as the state Department of Forestry released new maps categorizing fire risk. About 80,000 property owners got notices warning them they were at high or extreme risk for wildfires and might be subject to new state fire-safety building and landscaping rules, according to

the Oregon Capital Chronicle.

In response, thousands of people complained about inaccuracies with the maps or confusion about their purpose. The state canceled an in-person public meeting and instead held it online. Oregon Public Broadcasting reported that the state Department of Forestry logged 1,700 voicemails that went unheard because the agency's staff was busy fighting fires.

The information the maps contain and the action they likely will require of property owners underscores the fear and financial concern of people nationwide who face growing hazards as climate change destabilizes their understanding of the risks they face from floods, extreme storms, fires and other hazards.

It also may point to the need for a good public relations strategy for states considering adopting similar maps.

Defensible space

Wildfires are starting earlier in the fire season, occurring in more places, taking longer to suppress and inflicting greater losses, according to the Insurance Information Institute, a national clearinghouse for insurance information.

"In the last five years, we've had the most expensive and largest wildfires in the West," said Janet Ruiz, a director of strategic communications for the Insurance Information Institute.

In Oregon this summer, residents worried the risk classifications would require them to make speedy upgrades to more fire-resilient building codes and landscaping standards being adopted by the state, or else face fines. Some worried the maps would make their properties unsellable or that upgrades would be cost-prohibitive. But they were especially concerned about the effect of the maps on the availability and price of

home insurance. The higher the risk, they expected, the higher the insurance rates.

Oregon's fire maps were developed by the Department of Forestry and Oregon State University as part of sweeping legislation passed in 2021 aimed at addressing the increasing risk of wildfires in Oregon and devoting more resources to firefighting. As part of the law, the Office of the State Fire Marshal, by the end of 2022, will establish a defensible space code that requires high-risk property owners to landscape in a way that defends structures from fire.

The mapping was crucial for identifying which property owners might have to meet the code, which would require property owners to create a buffer between structures and the grass, trees, shrubs or wildland areas that surround them. California began similar risk mapping in 2007 to identify high risk properties. In 2021, the state began requiring people who sell property in a high or very high fire hazard severity zone to document they had completed a defensible space inspection.

Creating defensible space can offer protection from embers that may travel several miles from fires. Embers, the Oregon Department of Forestry notes, are the leading cause of home loss during a wildfire. Giving them fewer flammable places to latch onto and ignite can increase the likelihood that homes won't catch fire.

High risk

When Peters and her husband looked up their home on the state maps, their property was only at a medium risk for fire—for now. They fear they'll end up in the high-risk category eventually because they're on land near open space, in what's known as the Wildland Urban Interface, or WUI, which the U.S. Fire Administration

defines as the zone of transition between unoccupied land and where structures or other human development intermingle with undeveloped wildland or vegetative fuels.

"Let's say we get a few more dry summers, and they decide our area is now high risk," she said. "We were like, 'OK, that's kind of stressful.' Because we could at any time be bumped up to high risk."

The Oregon Department of Forestry withdrew the fire maps in early August following the public outcry. They'll work to retool them with more thorough public input, said Cal Mukumoto, Oregon's state forester and the director of the Oregon Department of Forestry, in a statement acknowledging how the agency fumbled the rollout.

The department met the deadline set by state lawmakers to deliver the maps, Mukumoto said, but "there wasn't enough time to allow for the type of local outreach and engagement that people wanted, needed and deserved."

The Oregon maps were designed to inform people about their wildfire risk, so they could take steps to mitigate it, not for insurance rates, said Jason Horton, a spokesperson for the Oregon Division of Financial Regulation, which oversees the industry.

To reassure policyholders, the agency issued what's known as a "data call" to insurers asking those doing business in the state whether they are using the now-revoked risk maps to set rates. Insurers are required by law to answer truthfully. All insurers confirmed they weren't using the maps for setting rates or coverage decisions.

Insurers in the United States already have deep knowledge of wildfire risks based on their own research, mapping and experience, said Kenton Brine, president of the NW Insurance Council, a nonprofit that provides in-

formation about insurance in Idaho, Oregon and Washington. But the past isn't a great predictor anymore, Brine said.

"What we are seeing in Oregon and across the West, really perhaps due to climate change or a combination of factors like climate change combined with increasing population, is that past experience is still relevant, but insurers can't rely on that solely," he said.

Insurers use climate-based and geographic and geological mapping. But they also look at factors such as how near people live to fire stations, and whether the fire station is highly rated, or staffed with people who are trained to fight wildfires.

The state map in Oregon "serves a really important purpose in terms of helping property owners identify their risk," Brine said. "But it isn't necessarily a useful tool or going to change anything for how insurers conduct rating and underwriting."

Rising costs

Homeowners do have many tools to assess risk independently. In California, for example, there's MyHazards, a mapping system people can use to assess earthquake and fire risk. And anyone in the nation can enter their address into Risk Factor, a new tool developed by the nonprofit First Street Foundation to identify fire, flooding and heat threats. Risk Factor ratings are also included on properties listed for sale on Realtor.com.

Consumers will save a lot of heartache if they have adequate coverage, said Ruiz, with the Insurance Information Institute. She cites her own 1979 home in a fire-prone area of California. Her homeowner's policy reflects how much it might cost if she lost it to fire and had to meet the state's newer building codes designed to help structures resist fire damage.

Life & Style

Diana's death stunned the world — and changed the royals

LONDON (AP)—Above all, there was shock. That's the word people use over and over again when they remember Princess Diana's death in a Paris car crash 25 years ago this week.

The woman the world watched grow from a shy teenage nursery school teacher into a glamorous celebrity who comforted AIDS patients and campaigned for land mine removal couldn't be dead at the age of 36, could she?

"I think we need to remind ourselves that she was probably the best known woman in the English-speaking world, aside from perhaps Queen Elizabeth II herself," said historian Ed Owens.

"And, given this massive celebrity persona that she had developed, to have that extinguished overnight, for her to die in such tragic circumstances, at such a young age, I think really came as a massive shock to many people."

It was that disbelief that cemented Diana's legacy as the woman who brought lasting change to Britain's royal family, helping bridge the gap between centuries of tradition and a new, multicultural nation in the internet age.

First, there was the outpouring of grief from the public who streamed to the princess' home at Kensington Palace to mourn the loss of a woman most had never met. That alone forced the royals to recognize that Diana's common touch had connected with people in ways that hadn't yet occurred to the House of Windsor.



Britain's Diana, Princess of Wales, is pictured during an evening reception given by the West German President Richard von Weizsäcker in honour of the British Royal guests in the Godesberg Redoute in Bonn, Germany Monday, Nov. 2, 1987. AP

Those lessons have since inspired other royals, including Diana's sons, Princes William and Harry, to be more informal and approachable. For proof, look no further than the glitzy concert that was a centerpiece of June's Platinum Jubilee celebrating the queen's 70 years on the throne.

There were rock bands and opera singers, dancers and lasers painting pictures of corgis on the sky. But the biggest applause was for Elizabeth herself, who appeared in a short film to share a pot of tea with British national treasure Paddington Bear. She then solved a longtime mystery and revealed what's inside her famous black handbag: A marmalade sandwich — just for emergencies.

It wasn't obvious Diana would be a royal rebel when she married Prince Charles.

A member of the aristocratic Spencer family, Diana was known for flouncy bows, sensible skirts and a boyish blond bob when she started dating the future king. After leaving school at 16, she spent time at a finishing school in the Swiss Alps and worked as a nanny and preschool teacher while living in London.

But she blossomed, becoming an international style icon the moment she walked down the aisle of St. Paul's Cathedral shrouded in lace and followed by a 25-foot train on July 29, 1981.

From that moment on, reporters and photographers

followed Diana wherever she went. While Diana hated the intrusion, she quickly learned the media was also a tool she could use to bring attention to a cause and to change public perceptions.

That impact was seen most famously when the princess opened the U.K.'s first specialized ward for AIDS patients on April 9, 1987.

Such ribbon-cutting ceremonies are a staple of royal duties. But Diana realized there was more at stake. She reached out and took the hands of a young patient, demonstrating the virus couldn't be transmitted by touch. The moment, captured by photos beamed worldwide, helped combat the fear, misinformation and

stigma surrounding the AIDS epidemic.

A decade later, Diana was even more media savvy.

Seven months before she died, Diana donned a protective visor and flak jacket and walked down a path cleared through a minefield in Angola to promote the work of The HALO Trust, a group devoted to removing mines from former war zones. When she realized some photographers didn't get the shot, she turned around and did it again.

The images brought international attention to the campaign to rid the world of explosives that lurk underground long after wars end. Today, a treaty banning land mines has been signed by 164 countries.

But that public platform came at a price.

Her marriage disintegrated, with Diana blaming Charles' continuing liaison with long-time mistress, Camilla Parker Bowles. The princess also struggled with bulimia and acknowledged suicide attempts, according to "Diana: Her True Story — In Her Own Words," published in 1992 based on tapes Diana sent to author Andrew Morton.

"When I started my public life, 12 years ago, I understood the media might be interested in what I did," Diana said in 1993. "But I was not aware of how overwhelming that attention would become. Nor the extent to which it would affect both my public duties and my personal life, in a manner that's been hard to bear."

In the end, it contributed to

her death.

On Aug. 30, 1997, a group of paparazzi camped outside the Hotel Ritz in Paris in hopes of getting shots of Diana and boyfriend Dodi Fayed pursued their car to the Pont de l'Alma tunnel, where their driver lost control and crashed.

Diana died Aug. 31, 1997.

A stunned world mourned. Bouquets of flowers, many including personal notes, carpeted the grounds outside Diana's home in Kensington Palace. Weeping citizens lined the streets outside Westminster Abbey during her funeral.

The public reaction contrasted with that of the royal family, who were criticized for not quickly appearing in public and refusing to lower the flag over Buckingham Palace to half-staff.

The mourning prompted soul-searching among members of the House of Windsor. They set about to better understand why Diana's death had prompted such an overwhelming spectacle, said Sally Bedell Smith, a historian and author of "Diana in Search of Herself."

"I think her legacy was something that the queen in her wisdom (sought) to adapt in the early years after her death," Smith said of focus groups and studies the monarchy used to grasp Diana's appeal.

"The queen was more likely to interact with people, and I think you see the informality magnified now, particularly with William and Kate," she said.

'Family failure' refuses to enable sibling's behavior

DEAR ABBY: I am the oldest of three. We grew up in an abusive alcoholic family. I'm considered the "failure" of the family because I don't drink. I graduated from college, work full time, got married and have a pretty stable life.

Both of my younger siblings drink and use drugs, and their lives are in constant turmoil. The youngest sibling has mentioned they will need to move by the end of this month and their current job has not paid them for several weeks. I dread that they will ask to stay at my house soon, which I cannot allow because of the drinking and drug use. I know they will be upset that they can't stay with me. How do I protect my peace without feeling like I'm making my sibling homeless?

BAD SISTER IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR BAD SISTER: Your reason for not wanting to host your substance-using sibling is sensible. State it kindly and clearly and do NOT feel guilty about it. You won't be making your sibling homeless. Unless your sibling is friendless, which I doubt, they will find another place to crash, I assure you.

■■■■

DEAR ABBY: My father recently passed from cancer. He was divorced from Mom, but she helped take care of him and made him happy in his last year of life. I'm having the baby blues (a 2-month-old) and grieving at the same time. My mother has now announced that she plans to take a

vacation with her best friend. I think it's too soon and I told her that. Am I wrong for feeling this way and trying to stop her from going? But at the same time, I know she deserves this vacation. I'm so confused. Please help.

RIGHT OR WRONG IN ARIZONA

DEAR RIGHT OR WRONG: Allow me to offer my sympathy for the loss of your dad. Considering the recent changes in your life, that you "need" your mother is understandable. However, your mother needing a break at this point is also understandable, so please let her go.

As you should know, your baby blues may be happening because of the abrupt hormonal changes your body is experiencing after the birth of your child. Discuss your emotions with your doctor, because there may be a medical solution for your situation. Please don't wait.

■■■■

DEAR ABBY: Please don't think I'm misogynistic, but whenever I see females, they're CONSTANTLY talking or scrolling on their cellphones. It seems like it is all they do! They don't seem to be interested in anything except their damned phones. They have no personalities. They have no sex drive. They're not even interested in men! Some even seem to lose their interest in shopping, which we know is a female addiction. It's not cute. It's not normal, and it's not sociable. In fact, it's bizarre and weird. Is there one "half-

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



way" normal female left on this earth, or should I move to another planet?

READY TO BAIL IN NEW JERSEY

DEAR READY: Have you heard that men are from Mars? Your space shuttle departs in 20 minutes. It's a one-way trip. Safe travels ...

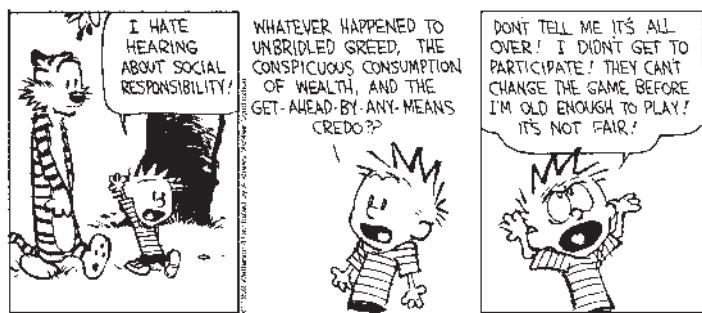
P.S. I am not calling you misogynistic, but it will be interesting to see what my readers call you. Stay tuned.

■■■■

Good advice for everyone — teens to seniors — is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

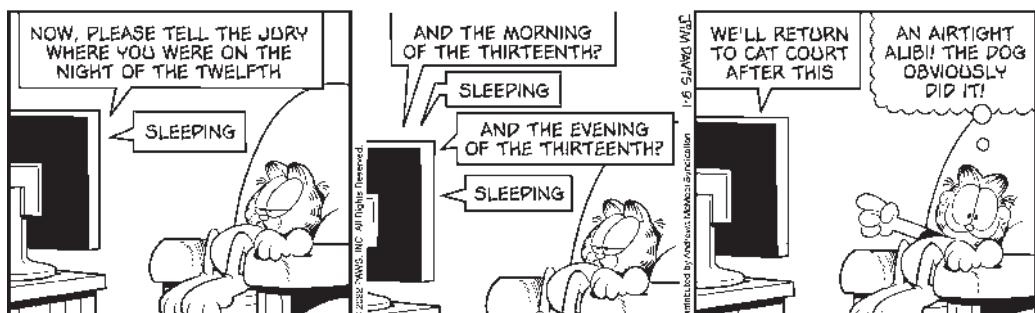
Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes



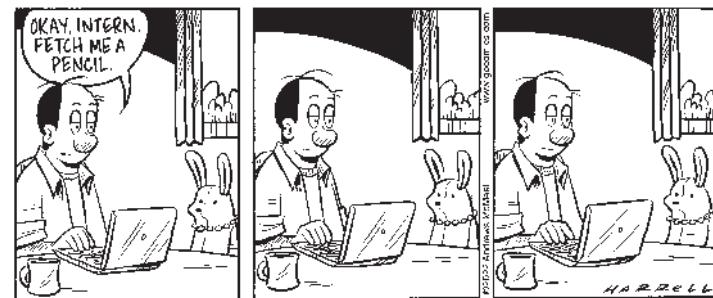
By Bill Waterson

Garfield®



By Jim Davis

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By Bryan Basset

The Duplex



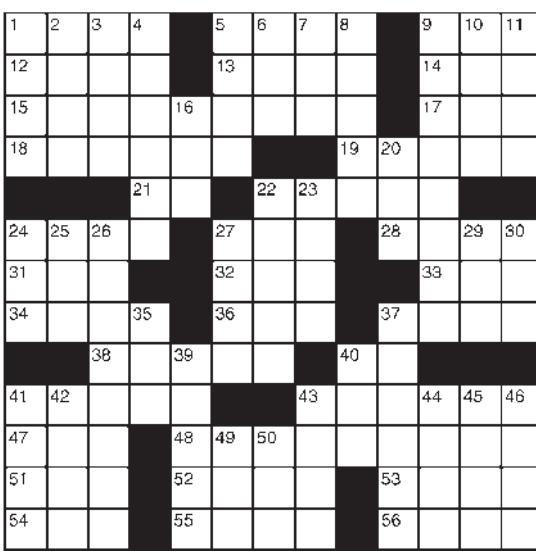
By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	40	Battery	DOWN	23	Dazzles
1 Sprint		size	1 Columnist	24	Napkin's
5 Dalai —	41	Laugh	Maureen		place
9 Humorist		track	2	25	Geologi-
12 Twice		sounds	target		cal
cuatro	43	Author	3	Actor	period
13 Done with		Lurie	LaBeouf	26	Namibia's
14 Here (Fr.)	47	"I love,"	capital		
15 Impulsive		in Latin	5	Actor Rob	27 Gilpin of
17 Born	48	Tropical	6	Bird	"Frasier"
abroad?		cooler	29	Actor	(Pref.)
18 Sweet-	51	Writer	7	Gents	Stephen
heart		Harper	8	Passion	30 Apiece
19 Sequence	52	Theater	9	Motor-	35 — la-la
21 Freudian		award	mouths	37	East
concept	53	Length	10	Frozen	Asian
22 Ersatz		times	drink	39	country
chocolate		width	brand	40	Silents
24 Lascivious	54	"For	11	Level	star Mary
		shame!"	16	Cover	40
27 "Wham!"	55	Frees (of)	20	Hogwash	Hearty
28 Rain-	56	Legend-	22	Witch	brew
delay		ary	41	Sentry's	41
cover		loch	42	lawa city	cry
31 MSNBC's		Solution time: 24 mins.	43	Citrus	42
Melber			drinks	44	Beget
32 Night			44	45	Small
before			45	46	bills
33 "Gosh!"			46	47	Secret-
34 Gasp			47	48	protecting
for air			48	49	docs
36 Scale			49	50	Slugger's
members			50		stat
37 Despot					50
38 Tub outlet					Succor

Yesterday's answer 9-1



For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only) A King Features service, NYC.

STUMPED?

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Zendaya, 26; Zoe Lister-Jones, 40; Gloria Estefan, 65; Lily Tomlin, 83.

Happy Birthday: Look for moneymaking opportunities. Expand your mind, and upgrade the way you live and do things. Put your thoughts and energy into being the best you can be and achieving something that satisfies your soul. Spend time with like-minded people, and enjoy the benefits available to you. Embrace the future with optimism, and enjoy what life has to offer. Your numbers are 5, 9, 18, 23, 32, 35, 47.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Precision and detail count and will make a difference when dealing with situations that influence how you live, handle your cash or do things that affect your relationships with the people who matter most. Finish what you start. **★★★**

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Evaluate what and who you are up against before you make a move. Knowledge is power when dealing with someone who is pushy or has designs to outmaneuver your every move. Protect your health, wealth and emotional well-being from outside influences. **★★★**

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Stop worrying. Focus on what's important. Speak up about possibilities and what you have to offer. Expand your interests, friendships and skills to ensure you can handle any challenge that stands between you and what you want to achieve. **★★★**

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Follow through and don't look back. Stop worrying about what others do; you'll find it easier to reach your target in record time. Refuse to

let anyone hold you back or push you in a compromising direction. **★★★★**

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Use intelligence to monitor situations. Keep your emotions out of the equation when dealing with friends, relatives or your lover. Oversee the possibilities, but don't start something you can't finish. Sit tight rather than make questionable adjustments. Be direct about your feelings. **★★**

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Refuse to let anyone take advantage of you. Offer only to do what's humanly possible and go about your business without regret. Get involved in projects and educational pursuits that help you advance. Discipline will lead to opportunities and new friendships. **★★★★**

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Sticking to a schedule will make life easier; if you dawdle or ignore what you need to do, you'll fall behind and face criticism. The simpler, the better. Declutter, downsize, and sell off or give away what you no longer need. **★★★**

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Pay attention to detail, and do your best to please the people you want to impress. An affectionate gesture will encourage talks regarding long-term plans and the changes that will make your life more accommodating. Don't let uncertainty hold you back. **★★★**

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Put a list together, and don't stop until you have completed all your tasks. Plan to do something fun with someone you love, leading to talks and proposals to improve your living situation. Romance is favored. 3 stars

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

COURTESY 2007
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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Don't overdo it or volunteer for something that doesn't interest you. Put your focus on saving, not spending, and on being a good listener. Someone will offer to pitch in and help, but before you accept, make sure there are no strings attached. **★★★★**

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Cap up how much you spend and what you sign up for to avoid running out of steam and falling short of your expectations. Think matters through, and surround yourself with individuals who have something to offer. Love and romance are prominent. **★★**

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Resolve a money matter by using your imagination and coming up with a solution that offers insight into how you can improve your income without losing free time. Think big, but stick to the basics. **★★★★**

Birthday Baby: You are changeable, curious and demonstrative. You are kind and appreciative.

• Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes. **★★**: You can accomplish, but don't rely on others. **★★★**: Focus and you'll reach your goals. **★★★★**: Aim high; start new projects. **★★★★★**: Nothing can stop you; go for gold.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

5			2				1
6		3				8	
			8				
				9	4	3	
1	5			7		9	
3	5	8					
			4				
4			6		9		
7		5				6	

Difficulty Level ★★★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's Answer

5	6	1	4	7	9	3	2	8
2	9	4	5	8	3	1	7	6
7	3	8	2	6	1	4	5	9
8	4	7	1	3	6	5	9	2
3	5	2	9	4	8	6	1	7
6	1	9	7	5	2	8	3	4
9	8	6	3	1	7	2	4	5
4	2	3	6	9	5	7	8	1
1	7	5	8	2	4	9	6	3

Tilt Faculty Level ★★★

WONDERWORD

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

IVANA TRUMP (1949-2022)

By DAVID OUELLET

B	A	R	B	A	R	A	M	O	D	E	L
I	G	N	I	H	T	O	L	C	O	U	M
G	D	E	R	F	L	A	I	W	A	L	T
B	G	A	Z	E	Z	R	O	N	W	I	V
R	B	S	E	A	E	G	O	O	Y	T	①
O	O	E	L	D	A	D	L	S	K	I	Z
T	O	P	N	N	N	U	E	O	R	V	P
H	K	A	I	T	O	O	T	L	B	A	C
E	S	N	C	E	L	V	L	H	T	E	N
R	T	T	K	I	V	E	E	B	O	S	G
U	Y	A	O	R	I	O	Y	L	E	R	N
T	L	U	V	A	G	T	L	B	S	A	C
N	E	R	A	M	S	T	A	R	A	C	R
E	M	A	N	A	M	G	N	U	O	Y	U
V	S	E	C	N	A	R	G	A	R	F	P

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John Wall says he considered suicide during struggles

LOS ANGELES (AP)—John Wall says he considered taking his own life during a time in the last three years when he was dealing with a torn Achilles and the deaths of family members at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The 31-year-old guard joined the Los Angeles Clippers this summer and is eager for a return to form this coming season. Wall has played just 40 games over the last three years because of injuries, COVID-19 and his former team, the Houston Rockets, not playing him before he joined the Clippers.

Wall discussed his recent past at a garden dedication earlier this month for his late mother at the Salvation Army in Raleigh, North Carolina, where he's from. His mother had been a volunteer at the Wake County location.

"Darkest place I've ever been in," Wall said. "At one point in time, I thought about



Then-Houston Rockets' John Wall (1) sits on the sideline during a timeout against the Denver Nuggets in an NBA basketball game Friday, April 16, 2021, in Houston. AP

committing suicide. I mean, just tearing my Achilles, my mom being sick, my mom passing, my grandma passed a year later, all this in the midst of COVID and at the same time, me going to chemotherapy, me sitting by my mom taking her last breaths wearing the same clothes for three days straight laying on the couch beside her."

Wall's mother, Frances Pulley, died in December 2019 at the age of 58 after struggling with breast cancer. His grandmother died later. At the same time, Wall was dealing with rehabbing his Achilles injury.

"We're all going through times, nobody's got it easy, but I don't think a lot of people could get through what I went through," Wall said. "And to me to get back on top where I want to be and seeing the fans still want me to play, having the support from my hometown, this important period means a lot. I went to find a therapist. A lot of people

think, 'I don't need help, I can get through it at anytime,' but you've got to be true to yourself and find out what's best for you."

Wall said he has a strong support system that includes his team and the mother of his two children. His sons also motivate him.

"I'm looking at all that and I'm like, 'If I can get through this, I can get through anything in life,'" he said.

Lakers superstar LeBron James' production company tweeted, "@John Wall we got your back. Always." James then tweeted, "And I mean ALWAYS!!!!!! Don't ever question it bro!! Proud of you @JohnWall."

Wall said he's happy to have a chance to play basketball again.

"You can tell I'm kind of smiling a lot more, all those types of things," he said. "I get an opportunity to play with two great players and the sky's the limit."

COVID, but only to say we'll be prepared for anything that comes our way."

The overwhelming majority of NBA players and team personnel were vaccinated last season, and the league said it is strongly recommending that those people remain up-to-date with their vaccination status. That means not only having received all doses in the initial series of vaccinations but also all boosters that are recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

All players and team personnel will be required to get tested when exhibiting any symptoms, plus they will be required to report those symptoms, as well as any positive or inconclusive results of tests not administered by the team or the league. Players and personnel will also have to report when someone in their household tests positive for COVID-19.

Unvaccinated NBA players, staff must test weekly for COVID

By TIM REYNOLDS
AP BASKETBALL WRITER

Unvaccinated NBA players and team personnel must submit to weekly COVID-19 testing this season, the league told its clubs in a memo Tuesday.

There will be certain exceptions to that mandate, the league said, such as when the unvaccinated person is considered to have been "recently recovered" from COVID-19.

But for all others, testing will not be required except when "directed by their team physician or a league physician or government authority," the league said.



In this July 29, 2020, file photo, signs lead to an NBA COVID-19 testing site inside the NBA bubble in Lake Buena Vista, Fla. AP

Ex-NBA player Terrence Williams pleads guilty in fraud case

NEW YORK (AP)—Former NBA player Terrence Williams has pleaded guilty to conspiring to commit health care fraud and identity theft in connection to a multimillion-dollar scam against the basketball league's health plan, authorities said.

He and 17 other former players were charged in an indictment in October 2021, and authorities said at least \$5 million in false claims were submitted to the plan between 2017 and 2021.

Damian Williams, the U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of New York, said Terrence Williams ran the scheme and recruited others to be part of it, giving them fake paperwork to submit.

Authorities said Williams received at least \$300,000 in kickbacks from the others for his efforts.

In situations where others involved balked, authorities said Williams pretended to be other people and threatened them in order to gain compliance.

The former player had



New Jersey Nets guard Terrence Williams, left, drives past Orlando Magic guard Vince Carter during the first half of an NBA basketball game in Orlando, Fla., on Nov. 5, 2010. AP

been on pretrial release but was remanded into custody earlier this year, with authorities telling a judge he had threatened a witness.

As a part of the plea agreement, Williams will pay \$2.5 million in restitution to the plan and forfeit over \$650,000 to the federal government.

Facemasks also will not be required, though they will be recommended for use indoors in markets where coronavirus levels are classified by government officials as high.

The policy for the coming season — agreed to by the National Basketball Players Association — has been developed over the last several weeks and is consistent with what Commissioner Adam Silver said last month he would expect.

"It looks like we'll be on our normal track in terms of when the season starts, in terms of our protocols around the game, particularly around the health and safety of our players," Silver said at the league's Board of Governors meeting in mid-July. "I have learned over the last 2 1/2 years not to make any predictions when it comes to

Agent: Barrett agrees to contract extension with NY Knicks

NEW YORK (AP)—RJ Barrett has agreed to a contract extension with the New York Knicks, agent Bill Duffy said Monday night.

ESPN first reported the agreement, saying the four-year deal could be worth up to \$120 million.

Barrett is entering his fourth season with the Knicks and has seen his scoring numbers climb in each of the last two years. He averaged 14.3 points as

a rookie, then 17.6 points in 2020-21 and 20.0 points this past season.

And he's done it all as a starter; Barrett has come off the bench in just one of his first 198 NBA regular season games.

The 6-foot-6 wing out of Duke was the No. 3 pick in the 2019 draft. He will make about \$11 million this coming season, the last of his rookie deal, and the extension will start with the 2023-24 season.

Dodgers quiet Timmy Trumpet for now, Lux helps top Mets

NEW YORK (AP)—Gavin Lux and the Los Angeles Dodgers quieted Timmy Trumpet at least for now, edging the New York Mets 4-3 Tuesday night in a matchup of NL division leaders.

The Mets lost with Trumpet, who performs Edwin Diaz's entrance song "Narco," at Citi Field and ready to blare away if the closer got into the game. But Diaz didn't get in and Trumpet instead played a more muted version of "Take Me Out To The Ballgame" on his horn in front of the Dodgers' dugout during the seventh-inning stretch.

"That's pretty impressive," said Dodgers outfielder Joey Gallo, who was watching from the dugout. "I know I can't play an instrument like that. That's pretty cool."

Minutes after the Mets lost in the first major league game the Australian-born Trumpet had attended, he tweeted that he'll be back at the ballpark Wednesday night, hoping for another chance to sound off.

"To be completely honest, I think everybody enjoys that entrance, watching it," said grinning Dodgers reliever Jake Reed, who earned his first big league save with a scoreless ninth. "Obviously, we don't want to see it while we're here."

Lux drove in three runs, including a tiebreaking single in the seventh inning. The hit drove in Freddie Freeman and came immediately after Joely Rodriguez (0-4) intentionally walked pinch-hitter Will Smith.

The Dodgers won despite stranding 12 runners, one shy of their season high, and leaving the bases loaded in the sixth and seventh.

"We pushed through," manager Dave Roberts said of his Dodgers, who arrived in New York early Tuesday morning following a 10-inning win over the Miami Marlins. "If you're here, you might as well try to win the game. Our guys had that mindset and we scored enough."

Heath Hembree (3-0), making his Dodgers debut, earned the win by stranding a pair of runners in the sixth, when he whiffed James McCann for the final out.

Reed, Los Angeles' fifth pitcher, notched the save in the ninth, when he allowed a lead-off single to Eduardo Escobar before getting Daniel Vogelbach to hit into a double play and retiring Brandon Nimmo on a comebacker.

Reed, who was claimed off waivers from the Mets in mid-July and recalled from Triple-A Oklahoma City earlier Tuesday, pumped his fists



AP
Los Angeles Dodgers pitcher Jake Reed reacts after the final out of the team's baseball game against the New York Mets on Tuesday, Aug. 30, 2022, in New York.

and shouted upon recording the final out.

"I've been up and down and all over the place, so I think any time I get to pitch in a big league game is an opportunity I don't take for granted," Reed said. "To do it in that situation, it was obviously a little more special."

The Dodgers scored their first three runs on consecutive pitches in the third. Joey Gallo was plunked by Taijuan Walker with the bases loaded and Lux followed with a two-run single that drove in Mookie Betts — with his 100th run of the season — and Max Muncy.

"They're not just trying to hit the home run," Walker said. "They'll take their hits when they can and that's what makes them dangerous."

Mark Canha hit his 100th big league homer and Starling Marte also connected for the Mets. Marte helped create a run in the first inning, when he bunted and Nimmo scored from first on pitcher Andrew Heaney's two-base throwing error.

Francisco Lindor snapped an 0-for-20 streak with a fifth-inning single for the Mets.

Walker allowed three runs in 5 1/3 innings. Heaney surrendered two earned runs in five innings.

Yankees 7, Angels 4

In Anaheim, Calif., Aaron Judge hit a three-run shot for his 51st homer of the season, and New York snapped its three-game losing streak with a victory over Los Angeles.

Judge connected for the second straight night at Angel Stadium, driving a high fastball from Mike Mayers (1-1) into the elevated right-field stands.

Judge had three hits and scored two runs. Andrew Benintendi and Anthony Rizzo hit early solo homers for New York, which lost starter Jameson Taillon to a bruised right forearm when he was hit by

a line drive to end the second inning.

Six Yankees relievers finished, and 27-year-old rookie Greg Weissert (1-0) earned his first major league win.

Max Stassi and Mike Ford homered for the Angels, whose four-game winning streak ended. Shohei Ohtani doubled and singled in his third consecutive multi-hit game.

Guardians 5, Orioles 1

In Cleveland, Cal Quantrill combined with three relievers for a one-hitter, rookie center fielder Will Benson made a pair of terrific leaping catches at the wall and AL Central-leading Cleveland beat Baltimore.

Ramón Urias singled in the second inning off Quantrill (11-5) for the Orioles' only hit. Quantrill worked six innings and extended his career-best winning streak to seven.

Josh Naylor hit a two-run homer and Steven Kwan had a two-run double for Cleveland.

Spenser Watkins (4-5) gave up five runs in 4 2/3 innings and lost his fourth start in a row.

Reds 5, Cardinals 1

In Cincinnati, Austin Romine hit a two-run homer as Cincinnati roughed up Dakota Hudson and ended St. Louis' three-game winning streak.

Cardinals slugger Albert Pujols went 0 for 2 and was hit by pitch. Pujols remained at 694 home runs, two behind Alex Rodriguez for fourth on the all-time list.

Hudson (7-7) went 4 2/3 innings, giving up nine hits and five runs with one walk.

Reds reliever Derek Law (1-1) allowed one hit over two innings.

Rockies 3, Braves 2

In Atlanta, C.J. Cron drove in two runs, José Ureña out-pitched Max Fried, and Colorado handed Atlanta its third straight loss.

AP

Matt Manning (1-2) gave up seven runs and seven hits in 2 1/3 innings.

Astros 4, Rangers 2

In Arlington, Texas, Jose Altuve homered to back Framber Valdez, who won his sixth straight decision as Houston beat Texas.

Valdez (14-4) gave up solo homers to Texas rookies Ezequiel Duran and Bubba Thompson and five singles in eight innings.

Hector Neris earned his third save in six opportunities.

Dane Dunning (3-7) lost for the first time since June 29. Dunning gave up three runs, two earned, on seven hits and three walks in five innings.

Diamondbacks 12, Phillies 3

In Phoenix, Zac Gallen stretched his scoreless streak to 34 1/3 innings, and Jake McCarthy homered and had five RBIs as Arizona routed Philadelphia.

Gallen (10-2) had the Phillies off balance all night, allowing two hits with seven strikeouts in seven innings.

The Diamondbacks tagged Aaron Nola (9-11) for five runs in the second inning and McCarthy put them up 8-0 with a three-run homer in the fourth. Touted rookie Corbin Carroll added a two-run double in the eighth off infielder Nick Maton.

Arizona had a season-high 17 hits for its seventh straight win over the Phillies.

Gallen is 6-0 with a 0.72 ERA in his last eight starts and has not lost since June 10.

Twins 10, Red Sox 5

In Minneapolis, Nick Gordon hit his first-ever grand slam and drove in a career-high six runs as Minnesota beat Boston.

Jake Cave and Gary Sánchez also homered for the Twins, who won their fifth straight.

Michael Fulmer (5-5)

worked 1 1/3 innings of relief

with two strikeouts.

Blue Jays 5, Cubs 3

In Toronto, Teoscar Hernández hit a three-run homer, Vladimir Guerrero Jr. also went deep Toronto beat Chicago.

Kevin Gausman (10-9)

pitched six solid innings to

win his second straight decision as the Blue Jays won back-to-back games after losing their previous three.

Willson Contreras and

Christopher Morel hit solo

home runs for the Cubs, but

Contreras left in the sixth

inning with an apparent

leg injury.

Jordan Romano wrapped

it up for his 28th save in

32 chances.

Mariners 9, Tigers 3

In Detroit, Cal Raleigh

sparked a six-run third with

a solo homer and capped it

with a sacrifice fly as Seattle

beat Detroit.

Ty France and Carlos San

tana also homered for Seattle,

which has won four of five.

George Kirby (6-3) allowed

only two hits in five scoreless

innings. Chris Flexen pitched

four innings of relief for his

first save.

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Toyota Tacoma is hole-in-one prize for HANMI golf tourney

A 2022 Toyota Tacoma TRD Sport for Atkins Kroll Saipan awaits one lucky hole-in-one winner at the 20th Annual HANMI Charity Classic Golf Tournament on Sept. 17, 2022, at Laolao Bay Golf & Resort. The prize awaits at hole No. 3 of the resort west course.



"In my 20 years' experience on the annual HANMI tournament committee, this Tacoma is probably the highest value car we've ever been able to offer," said HANMI Golf Tournament Committee chair Juko Ishikawa. "A big thank

you to Atkins Kroll for their generous support for this year's tournament, which will benefit Northern Marianas Technical Institute and other worthy organizations."

This Saturday, Sept. 3, at 5pm is the last chance to avail of early bird registration rates for the tournament. Registration is now being accepted at only Lao;ao Bay Golf & Resort due to limited slots available. Registration is \$120 through the early bird deadline and \$140 after, awards luncheon included. Registration forms

are available at www.saipan-hotels.org, www.facebook.com/HANMI670, and at Laolao Bay Golf & Resort.

For an additional \$30 players may also compete for option-

al play prizes, including longest drive (male and female), accurate drive, aggressive drive, and four chances for nearest to the pin. The tournament is open to the first 144 paid registrants.

Showtime on tournament day 6am and the tournament will start at 7am. The awards banquet will immediately follow the tournament at Laolao Bay Golf & Resort.

For more information, contact tournament chair Juko Ishikawa at worlddressort@pticom.com or visit www.facebook.com/HANMI670. (PR)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, Didi Woodruff, AK Sales consultant; Kim Calage, AK Sales consultant; Ishikawa Juko, director of Operations World Resort; Seong-Uk Jo, Sales and Marketing manager for Laolao Bay Golf & Resort; Maximo Concepcion, COP manager; Kevin Barnes, AK Sales manager; Liza Taylor, AK Sales consultant; and Kevin Ada, AK Sales consultant.

Triathlon event to celebrate Tan Holdings 50th anniversary

By LEIGH GASES
leigh_gases@saipantribune.com
 CORRESPONDENT

TRAC The second in a series of events to celebrate Tan Holdings' 50th Anniversary of its inception is the Sprint Triathlon and Taga Kids Triathlon this Saturday, Sept. 3.

The Sprint Triathlon will begin at 6am for both individual and mixed participants.

It will start off with a 750m swim, move on to a 20km bike race from Paupau, to Seafix, back up to Banzai Cliff, then back to Paupau, and finally, a 5km run from Paupau to Ayuyu Drive then back.

The Taga Kids triathlon will

start at 8am or right after the Sprint Triathlon. Children ages 5 to 8 years old are welcome to join the 50m swim, one loop

bike, and one loop run course around Paupau Beach.

Children ages 9 to 12 years old are eligible for the 100m



MARK RABAGO

A Sprint Triathlon and Taga Kids Triathlon will be held this Saturday, Sept. 3, in celebration of Tan Holdings' 50th Anniversary.

swim, two loops bike, and two loops run course around Pau-pau Beach.

Prizes and medals will be given to top finishers, along with running shirts for all finishers.

The last day to register is this Friday, Sept. 2 and there will be no race day registrations.

The Sprint Triathlon and Taga Kids Triathlon is being organized with the help of the Triathlon Association of the CNMI.

Register at <https://www.webscorer.com/register?raceid=284296>.

BILLIE

From Page 24

ments and went through multiple struggles on my Power Puff heats throughout the season. I feel absolutely wonderful that I was able to make my family proud, my sponsors proud, and my supporters! I knew I couldn't let them down so I did the best I could!"

In the Mini ATV Class,

Franchesca Yumul came out on top with 47 points, followed by Anella Igitol and Theresa Borja with 42 and 38 points, respectively.

Keoni Rosario ruled the Peewee ATV Class with a perfect 50 points. Rockson Cabrera came in second with 44 points followed by Brooklynn Susulin with her 40 points.

Bentley Koshiro was the lone rider in the Peewee I

Class and notched 50 points.

In the PeeWee II Class, Conan Iakopo was again without peer with 50 points with Keenon Togawa and Kaleb Togawa completing the Top 3 with 44 points and 38 points, respectively.

The results of the rest of the classes in the Marianas Racing Association-organized race will be published in the next issues of *Saipan Tribune*.

PELELIU

From Page 24

It was a quiet second inning when Momma Charo only managed a base hit each from two of its batters and Peleliu scored only one run in for a score of 4-3.

Momma Charo's bats came alive again in the third inning as they worked their way to score six runs, from which one run was made by a home run by Joe Kapileo who had three RBIs in the game. Peleliu managed to scrape up three runs.

From there, Peleliu took the game on with renewed vigor after Momma Charo came up empty from the fourth through sixth inning, scoring in 10 runs over three innings, with them now on top of the scoreboard at 17-9.

In the innings, Peleliu's John Terlaje whipped up a tri-

ple and had one RBI. The other RBIs were from Jun Lizama at four, and Bill Aguon and Joe Lizama at three a-piece.

All hope was lost for Momma Charo as in the seventh inning they only managed to score three runs while Peleliu added five more runs to secure the win at 22-12.

Pitching ace of Peleliu, Ray Villagomez, scorched away seven strikeouts and walked only two batters in the game.

Peleliu are now 4-3 in the standings, while Momma Charo are at 3-5.

Sufa 14, Tokahao 13

In a close game between Sufa and Tokahao, the former dug themselves out of the losing bracket to beat the latter in a nail biter game, 14-13.

With Sufa's win, they are now tied at 3-3 in the leaderboard, while Tokahao is still a game up at 4-3.

Tokahao fought valiantly

against Sufa as they took turns scoring runs in most of the innings, but the effort wasn't enough even after three home runs—one made by Jeff Cruz and two made by Jojo Attao.

By the fourth inning, Tokahao had five runs while Sufa had seven and it was still anybody's game. Majority of the runs came flowing in from both sides when Sufa scored two more runs in the fifth and Tokahao caught up in the sixth and scored four runs to tie the game up, 9-9.

Decisively in the last inning, Sufa scored five runs while Tokahao managed to only come up with two runs with a nail-biter score of 14-13.

Jude Dickinson of Sufa went 4-4 at home plate with two home runs and four RBIs. Sufa pitcher Tom Camacho is tied with Dickinson at four RBIs and had one triple. He had five K's against Tokahao.

Tokahao fought valiantly

SR. NATIONAL

From Page 24

day, Friday, and Saturday.

"After taking a break for over two months following our participation in the Micronesian Cup in Guam, we are resuming our program for the 2022-2023 season in preparations for the 2023 Micronesian Games in the Marshall Islands and possibly the 2023 Pacific Games in the Solomon Islands. We are calling all players who wish to have the honor of representing the NMI to come and join the tryouts," Lee said.

The NMIBF will implement the system in use in its inaugural program for this month's tryouts, as it will select the Top 20 players each in the men's and women's divisions after the two-week trials. The initial selected group will then undergo off, pre, and on-season training sessions from October to early June next year before the Top 12 is selected to play for the NMI National Team and compete in the Micro Games in the Marshall Islands. Next

Man Amigos 21, Aimeliik 3

Man Amigos blew Aimeliik out of the park with a 21-3 run-ruled game that ended in five innings.

The Amigos' lineup all pitched in after coming up empty in the first inning, and put up nine runs through three innings, and then 11 runs to call it quits in the last and fifth inning.

Aimeliik conjured up only one run in the first inning and only two runs in the last inning, with the runs scored in by a two-run home run.

James Fleming is credited with the most RBIs with four for the Man Amigos, followed by Mark Toves and Derron Flores at three apiece and Peter Sablan and Jess Tenorio with two apiece.

This game boosted Man Amigos above the rest in the leaderboard, 7-1, while Aimeliik is down in the dugouts at 2-6.

year's Micro Games is scheduled from July 25 to Aug. 5.

The program is also open to off-island players, including those from Rota and Tinian.

Interested off-island players must submit a letter of intent via email to the NMIBF National Committee by Oct. 31 for a chance to be included in the program. Once accepted, the committee will set guidelines that will ensure off-island players are putting in the same work as the on-island players to get ready for next year's competitions.

Interested players, both on- and off-island, must be at least 16 years old, a U.S. citizen, and have resided in the NMI for at least five years. There may be other requirements under the Micronesian Games Council, FIBA, and Pacific Games Council's eligibility rules, but more details will be provided once confirmed.

For more information, contact the NMIBF at nmibasketballfederation@gmail.com or send a message to the group's Facebook page Northern Mariana Islands Basketball Federation. (PR)

Ngaraard Redman 25, Salty Boys 10

The Salty Boys just can't seem to catch a break as Ngaraard Redman beat them 25-10, which brings Redman at 3-3 in the leaderboard and Salty Boys at 0-8.

It was almost over before it fully started as early on, Ngaraard Redman scored 15 runs in just a couple innings which the Salty Boys never had a chance to catch up.

The Salty Boys' pitcher gave up five home runs in the run-ruled fourth inning shortened game which the Ngaraard Redman took advantage of. In the last two innings, they scored 10 more runs while the Salty Boys only managed to get 10 runs overall.

Ton Pangilinan, Jaime Reyes, and Mike Tomokane hit one home run a piece, and Jason Reyes had the most with two home runs.



John Wall says he
considered suicide
during struggles

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Saipan Tribune Sports

24 THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2022

Toyota Tacoma is
hole-in-one prize
for HANMI golf
tourney

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Billie reclaims Power Puff Girls tiara



MICHAEL JORNAL
Billie Inabo Pangelinan flies high in
the Power Puff Girls Class of the
2022 Monster Energy Point Series
Race last Sunday at the Cowtown
Race Track.

Peleliu bests Momma Charo, 22-12

By LEIGH GASES
Correspondent
LEIGH_GASES@SAIPANTRIBUNE.COM

 D e -
fending
Le ague
champion Peleliu, defeated
Momma Charo, 22-12, last
Sunday during the 2022
Budweiser BASA League
last Sunday at **» Man
the Dandan Soft-
ball Field.**

Momma Charo **also win** displayed grit and determination against Peleliu as although Peleliu scored multiple runs in, they forced the game play through all seven innings- although it just

wasn't enough to beat them. Early on, Momma Charo, recovering from their loss a week prior, shook off the dust and scored two runs, followed by a home run in the first inning by J.J. Laniyo, for an early lead of 3-0.

However, Peleliu replied and showcased why they were last year's champions as the first three batters in their lineup, Joe Lizama, Mark Flores, and John Terlaje, all scored against Momma Charo pitcher Kalle Igisomar to tie up the game, 3-3.

See PELELIU ON Page 23



MARK RABAGO

Man Amigos, seen here against Tokahao in a file photo, blew Aimeliik out of the park with a 21-3 run-ruled game in the 2022 Budweiser BASA League last Sunday at the Dandan Softball Field.

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Billie Inabo Pangelinan reclaimed the monthly tiara of the Power Puff Girls Class of the 2022 Monster Energy Point Series Race last Sunday at the Cowtown Race Track.

The 13-year-old student from Dandan Middle School

was perfect after topping both heats for 50 points. Last

month's winner, Nanako Celles, came in second with 44 points, while Shaniah Alvarez was third with 40 points.

Perhaps unlike other riders last weekend, Pangelinan was happy to do a rain dance before the competition.

"There wasn't really much difference this time with the race! I was hoping for it to rain so the track could be tacky and muddy for a fun last race of

the season. I was just adapting to the track and treating it like practice since they made a change to the track that affected my performance," she said.

Aboard her trusty Honda CRF150R, Pangelinan said it was nice to win the Power Puff Girls Class anew.

"It honestly feels so nice to reclaim the women's division as I earned all those place-

See BILLIE on Page 23

Sr. National Program for basketball to resume



The Northern Mariana Islands Basketball Federation will resume its Senior National Program as the group gears up for off-island competitions next year.

NMIBF president James Lee said the 2022-2023 Men's and Women's Senior National Program will resume this Saturday, Sept. 3, with a meet-and-greet for interested players at 10am at the NMSA conference room at the Oleai Sports Complex. Then on Tuesday, Sept. 6, the NMIBF will kick off the two-week tryout period at the TSL Sports Complex. The series of tryouts, which will run until Sept. 17, will be held every Tues-



UOG TRITONS

In this file photo, the NMI's Destiny Pangelinan, right, dribbles past a Fuetsa defender during their game at the University of Guam Fieldhouse in April this year. The search is on for members of the NMI National Team that will be competing in the 2023 Micronesian Games in the Marshall Islands.